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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 446, U. S. Army

APR 1 6

AG 314.7

SUBJECT: Historical Record, Headquarters VI Corps, February 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, 25, D. C.

INTRODUCTION

1. The month of February proved to be the most quiet period for VI Corps Troops since the Corps began operations in France on 15 August 1944. Although the attack of the 36th Division on the OBERHOFFEN - DRUSENHEIM axis succeeded in clearing the enemy from the west bank of the RHINE in that area during the first two weeks, there were no other changes along the entire front throughout the period as the Corps' divisions underwent refitting and training and conducted vigorous patrolling programs into territory held by an enemy content to limit his activities to passive defense measures.

2. Although at least elements of the 6 SS Mtn, 7 Paratroop, 10 SS Panzer and the 36, 47, 245, 256, 257 and 553 VG Divisions were still in front of VI Corps on 1 February, the enemy was in process of withdrawing some of those forces and by the end of the week his order of battle from West to East had been limited to the 6 SS Mtn, 36, 47 and 257 VG and the 905 Mobilization Divisions - all of which were well understrength.

3. As the month opened, the VI Corps front extended from Q-745410 (just South of SARRINSBERG) generally Southeast along the ROTHBACH and MODER Rivers beyond BISCHWILLER to R-100185 and then ran Southwest through WEDERSHEIM to the Seventh Army right boundary at R-045120. Holding this line from West to East were the 45th Infantry, 103d Infantry, 101st Airborne, 79th Infantry and 36th Infantry Divisions with the 14th Armored Division in Corps reserve. The XV U. S. Corps was holding the line to the left and the II French Corps of the First French Army on the right.

1 February

1. The period 1 February was highlighted by the continuation of the 36th Division attack against OBERHOFFEN (R-0920) with slight gains being made against stiff resistance. Along the remainder of the VI Corps front patrols and raiding parties pushed out into enemy territory. The enemy remained defensively alert and launched small counterattacks against 79th Division raiding parties and the 36th Division assault on OBERHOFFEN. Corps artillery fired a large number of harassing missions over the Corps front in addition to a strong preparation for the attack of the 36th Division. No hostile aircraft appeared over the Corps zone during the period.

2. On the Corps left flank, the 45th Division held a front line generally along the ROTHBACH River from ALTHORN (Q-7540) to ROTHBACH (Q-846342), employing the 179th Inf, 180th Inf and 36th Engr C Regt. The entire sector remained relatively quiet throughout the period, with extensive patrolling being carried out by all frontline elements to maintain contact with the enemy. Enemy patrols

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were conspicuously inactive during the night with the exception of a 15-man group that made two determined attempts to enter SARMUHL (Q-795375) but was effectively dispersed by machine gun, mortar and artillery fire of the 180th Inf. A subsequent American patrol found 11 enemy dead in the town. In the 179th Inf sector on the extreme left, forward elements were intermittently shelled during the day, and a 75 round concentration fell on ALTHORN just prior to nightfall. On the right, the 36th Engr C Regt with an attached battalion of the 179th Inf continued to improve defensive positions, while the 157th Inf remained in training areas during the period 1/.

3. To the right the 103d Division held a front generally along the south banks of the ROTHBACH River from ROTHBACH to PFAFFENHOFFEN (Q-905271), employing from left to right elements of the 410th and 409th Infs. There was no enemy activity along the entire division front during the day with the exception of some artillery fire on INGWILLER. A deserter from the 12 SS Mtn Regt (6 SS Mtn Div) claimed that after the engagement at SCHILLERSDORF his battalion had been depleted to 60 men and had departed MUHLHAUSEN (Q-865315) for BARRENTHAL (Q-8442) where a reorganization was to be effected. After dark, the enemy was alert to our activity and 410th Inf patrols to ROTHBACH, MUHLHAUSEN and HISCHHOLTZ (Q-855325) were engaged in stiff fire fights, the enemy employing artillery and mortar as well as small arms and machine gun fire. The 2d Bn 409th Inf completed relief of 3d Bn 410th Inf elements by 2200A, thus extending the 409th Inf sector further to the left towards NIEFFERN (Q-8730) 2/.

4. In the Corps central sector, the 101st Airborne Division held a front line along the south banks of the MODER River from PFAFFENHOFFEN to SCHWEIGHAUSEN (R-002245), held by the 506th Prcht Inf, 501st Prcht Inf and 327th Glider Inf. Action was limited to successful night raids by the 501st Prcht Inf and 327th Glider Inf on enemy strongpoints at Q-960274 and Q-998252 along the railway line North of the MODER River. Encountering resistance that was light in small arms but heavy in 120mm mortar fire, both raiding parties reached their objectives, inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy and took a total of 39 prisoners, including 2 officers, from the 103, 104 and 115 GRs of the 47 VG Division. During the day, the division sector remained quiet although frontline positions were harassed by light, intermittent shelling. On the right flank, positions of the 327th Glider Inf in the vicinity of SCHWEIGHAUSEN were subjected to mortar and machine gun fire coming from points North of the river 3/.

5. To the right, the 79th Division was firmly entrenched in positions extending from just East of SCHWEIGHAUSEN, through HAGUENAU, to the vicinity of R-088200 along the south side of the MODER River. The left half of the division front was held by the 313th Inf while the right half was positioned by the 314th and 315th Infs. Considerable activity transpired during the period as the enemy reacted sharply to our night raids and patrols. Sporadic artillery and mortar fire was received by forward units along the entire division front, including HAGUENAU and KALTENHOUSE (R-0721), with the heaviest fires being received in the 315th Inf sector opposite OBERHOFFEN. A strong combat patrol of the 313th Inf crossed the MODER River in the vicinity of R-012247 and R-013245 at 2100A in a raid towards CLAUSENHOF (R-017243) and METZGER (R-025249) with the mission of securing prisoners. Shortly after the crossings were accomplished, the enemy reacted sharply in the vicinity of METZGER with a platoon size counterattack from the Northeast and a company size counterattack from the Southeast,

1/. WRJ, 1 Feb - Entries #12, 38 and 85.

2/. WRJ, 1 Feb - Entries #15, 70 and 87; WRJ, 2 Feb - Entry #25.

3/. WRJ, 1 Feb - Entries #5, 13, 17, 43, 48 and 55.

(Note - Daily G-2 and G-3 Rpts are used as references for periods they cover, and will not be indicated in future paragraphs).

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and stiff fighting was in progress at the close of the period. On the right flank, patrols of the 315th Inf crossed the MODER River in the vicinity of R-081210 at midnight 31 Jan - 1 Feb, one advancing to R-090209 where small arms and machine gun fire was received from three directions and another engaging in a fire fight with enemy troops in the railroad station at R-088211, but no prisoners were taken 4/.

6. On the Corps right flank, the 36th Division and CC "B" 14th Armd Division were engaged in heavy fighting with the enemy in the OBERHOFFEN area as the month of February opened. The Division front extended from the southern portion of OBERHOFFEN Southwest to WEYERSHEIM, the line being held by the 142d Inf, 141st Inf, 117th Cav Ron Sqn and 36th Cav Ron Troop. On the left, the northward attack of the 2d Bn 142d Inf against OBERHOFFEN continued during the night and by dawn objectives at R-096203 and R-101200 had been occupied against stiff resistance of small arms fire and 17 prisoners captured from the 22 SS PGR (10 SS Pz Division). Thereafter, infantry resistance increased and the enemy launched a counterattack of 8-10 tanks in the afternoon. This enemy armor, after firing on forward elements of the 142d Inf and penetrating their positions, covered the approaches to the road junction at R-096195 and harassed bridge sites over the MODER River. However, despite continuous harassing artillery and tank fire, two bridges were laid across the river shortly after noon and the 1st Bn 142d Inf with ten supporting tanks of the 14th Armd Division attacked North through the 2d Bn late in the afternoon and proceeded to R-099197 before making contact with the enemy. Stiff resistance was again encountered in the town and heavy small arms fighting was in progress as the period ended. Ammunition restrictions limited fires of the 36th Division Artillery to 11 rounds per gun per day, but the Corps Commander approved the 36th Division Commander's request for additional expenditures. Recon elements of CC "B" 14th Armd Division relieved elements of the 142d Inf between BISCHWILLER and the MODER River, and outposted the two MODER River bridge sites. In the division central sector, the 141st Inf established a 28-man outpost at R-099132 on the north bank of the ZORN River preparatory to the construction of a foot bridge and establishment of a beachhead at that point. On the right, elements of the 117th Cav Ron Sqn, operating from the II French Corps zone, attacked North and occupied the STEINWALD (R-1112) after overcoming light and scattered small arms and machine gun fire and encountering minefields around the edges. Patrolling in the direction of OFFENDORF (R-1312) was initiated. The 143d Inf remained in assembly areas during the period 5/.

2 February

1. February 2 was a quiet day along the VI Corps front with the exception of the 36th Division sector on the right flank where operations continued in OBERHOFFEN against determined resistance and a night attack was launched towards ROHRWILLER which apparently surprised the enemy as only light initial resistance was encountered. However, terrain conditions greatly hampered operations in this area where the network of streams had swollen rapidly during the recent thaw and rains, badly flooding the lowlands. The Corps artillery continued to provide general support with particular attention to the operations of the 36th Division.

2. On the Corps left flank, troop dispositions of the 45th Division remained unchanged and activity was limited to vigorous patrolling which resulted in several minor clashes and exchanges of small arms fire with the enemy. Scattered artillery and mortar fire fell on forward elements during the night, commencing again

4/. WRJ, 1 Feb - Entries #15, 45 and 83; WRJ, 2 Feb - Entry #2.

5/. WRJ, 1 Feb - Entries #15, 26, 29, 41, 51, 69, 78 and 84.

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just before noon. In the vicinity of ALTHORN, on the left flank, 179th Inf patrols maintained close contact with the enemy OPL and dispersed a small force attempting to penetrate our positions at Q-750805, while to the Southeast, our patrols to Q-772387 and Q-771390 drew small arms and machine pistol fire. In the central sector, 180th Inf patrols to REIPERTSWILLER (Q-8037) were engaged in stiff fire fights by enemy occupying houses in the town. After placing a mortar concentration on the hill North of SAEGMUHL, 180th Inf troops located 10-12 dead Germans identified through their Soldbuchs as being from the 12 SS Mtn Regt and 7 SS Arty Regt. On the right, the 36th Engr C Regt zone remained quiet with patrols operating several hundred yards to the front without making contact. The 157th Inf continued its program of training and reorganization, meanwhile making recon and plans to relieve the 180th Inf in the division central sector 6/.

3. In the 103d Division sector the period remained very quiet and there was no contact with the enemy. Three enemy tanks were observed at Q-879843166 and taken under artillery fire which destroyed one and damaged another. The enemy appeared to be improving his defensive line since an Air OP detected many dug-in positions along the OFFWILLER (Q-855345) - MUHLHAUSEN road 7/.

4. Along the 101st Airborne Division front activity was at a standstill although intermittent, light, harassing enemy artillery fire fell in SCHWEIGHAUSEN. On the right, the 327th Glider Inf captured three deserters of the 111 GR at Q-9926. At the same time seven other apparent deserters started to come through the lines, until two of them suddenly turned around and headed back while the other five hit the ground and opened fire. In the ensuing fire fights, all seven were killed. An enemy tank observed at Q-957237 was knocked out by division artillery 8/.

5. Close contact with the enemy was maintained all along the 79th Division front. Sporadic artillery and mortar fire fell on forward units throughout the period and nebelwerfer fire landed in each regimental sector during the early morning hours. As the period opened, the 2d Bn 313th Inf raiding force was engaged in heavy small arms fire fighting in the vicinity of CLAUSENHOF and METZGER, and repulsed two sharp counterattacks in the vicinity of the latter town. As an example of the fanatical resistance encountered, a house containing some trapped Germans was burned to the ground without their surrendering. The raiding force succeeded in disengaging prior to daylight and returned to assembly area South of the river with three prisoners, two of which were wounded, from the 21 SS PzR (10 SS Pz Division). Subsequent interrogation revealed that this entire division was on this front and that it had received a good many replacements to offset its losses during January. During the day, one tank and several small groups of enemy were observed in HUNDSHOF (R-0326) by the 313th Inf and taken under artillery fire with unknown results 9/.

6. The 36th Division sector on the Corps right flank continued to be the focal point of activity during the period as operations progressed towards the clearing of OBERHOFFEN and a new attack was launched on ROHRWILLER. On the left flank, heavy fighting continued in OBERHOFFEN as the 142d Inf (-3d Bn) supported by ten tanks and six tank destroyers battled for possession of the town against stubborn enemy infantry and 3 - 6 tanks. A counterattack from the Northeast was repulsed during the morning after which armored infantry elements of [illegible] were committed to assist the 142d Inf. Bazookamen stalked enemy tanks and

6/. WRJ, 2 Feb - Entries #14, 39, 65 and 74.

7/. WRJ, 2 Feb - Entry #74.

8/. WRJ, 2 Feb - Entries #25, 49 and 72.

9/. WRJ, 2 Feb - Entries #8, 15, 21, 41 and 74.

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succeeded in destroying one, while two of our tanks were lost to enemy tank fire. By the close of the period, enemy resistance was limited to the northern edge of the town. CC "B" pushed Northeast from BISCHWILLER with a view to executing an outflanking movement to attack OBERHOFFEN from the North by cutting back through the break in the woods South of SCHIRRHEIN, but was held up at R-102201 by anti-tank, small arms and artillery fire which destroyed one tank. With only one bridge in service out of four spanning the MODER River in the vicinity of BISCHWILLER due to the swollen condition caused by the thaw and rains, the 3d Bn 142d Inf and 1st Bn 143d Inf waded across one of the bridges partially covered by water and developed a coordinated attack to the East and Southeast at 2030A in conjunction with the 2d Bn 143d Inf which attacked South of the river towards ROHRWILLER (R-1217). This night attack apparently took the enemy by surprise as only light initial resistance was encountered and at the close of the period troops had reached the edge of the woods at R-130185 and were engaged in a fire fight on the western edge of ROHRWILLER, while South of the river forward elements reached R-115165 without contact. The movement of 141st Inf East along the WEYERSHEIM - GAMBSHEIM road preparatory to attacking OFFENDORF and HERRLISHEIM (R-1214) was being slowed down because of the flooded area South of the ZORN River. Other 141st Inf elements completed construction of a foot bridge over the ZORN River at R-099133. The 117th Cav Recn Sqn reinforced its positions in the STADTWALD, preparing to assist the 141st Inf in its attack on OFFENDORF. 103 prisoners from the 21 and 22 SS PGRs were taken during the period 10/.

7. Two missions of 27 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps with 13½ tons of bombs being dropped on SOUFFLENHEIM, OBERHOFFEN and SCHIRRHEIN - the former town also being strafed. Approximately 80 buildings were destroyed in all and large fires and explosions were observed in SOUFFLENHEIM. Enemy aircraft became active during the period after a lull of several days. Three separate flights totalling nine Me-109s and one jet-propelled Me-262 were over the Corps zone apparently on recon, as no hostile acts were performed. However, the 103d Division reported that OBERSOULTZBACH (Q-7928) and ZUTZENDORF (Q-8628) were strafed. All planes except the Me-262, which was too high, were engaged by heavy and light AA resulting in two destroyed and four probably destroyed.

3 February

1. Vigorous patrolling and raiding activity were the extent of VI Corps operations on 3 February except on the right flank in the 36th Division sector where the attack continued against OBERHOFFEN and ROHRWILLER. Two moderate counterattacks were repulsed after initially penetrating American positions and causing slight withdrawals. Forces attacking HERRLISHEIM were forced to withdraw due to the flooded condition of the terrain. In the center of the Corps front, successful raids by the 103d Division cleared the enemy from ROTHBACH and HISCHHOLTZ and PW identifications disclosed a recent change of enemy dispositions in the area. Air OPs were hampered by haze during the day but many ground observed missions were fired on enemy troop concentrations and tanks by the Corps artillery. A counterbattery program was carried out with the main effort in support of the 36th Division.

2. The 45th Division sector remained generally quiet during the period with very little activity taking place during daylight hours. Vigorous and extensive patrolling was continued by all frontline units. Varying from close on the left flank to scattered on the right flank, contact was maintained with the enemy, substantiating the presence of the 6 SS Mtn Division on the 45th Division front.

10/. TRJ, 2 Feb - Entries #1, 10, 29, 37, 62, 77 and 85.

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Positions of the 179th Inf in the vicinity of ALTHORN were harassed by periodic light caliber artillery fire and patrols operating to the North and Northeast of the town drew rifle grenade and automatic weapons fire. 180th Inf night patrols made deep penetrations into the area Northeast of REIPERTSWILLER and located small groups of enemy in dug-in positions, but no clashes occurred. The 180th Inf was relieved in position by the 157th Inf by 2130A, and moved to assembly areas at METTING (Q-6123), BUST (Q-6325) and SCHOENBOURG (Q-6526). The 36th Engr C Regt sector on the right flank remained quiet with all patrols reaching their objectives without contacting the enemy 11/.

3. On the 103d Division front, the enemy remained on the defensive and from PW identifications it was apparent that his dispositions had been undergoing considerable revision. The period, although quiet except for a few scattered rounds of artillery and mortar fire on forward elements, was highlighted by two well-planned raids. An early morning raid by the 410th Inf on BISCHHOLTZ surprised a company of the 87 GR (36 VG Div) which had just taken over positions of 12 SS Mtn Regt elements in the town. The entire German force was either killed, wounded or captured. Local reliefs were effected by the 410th Inf prior to a raid by the 1st Bn 411th Inf on ROTHBACH at 2015A. Although the raid achieved the element of surprise, the enemy defenders quickly reorganized and offered stiff resistance from the cemetery at Q-347339. After the cemetery had changed hands several times in the course of heavy fighting, 411th Inf elements outflanked the town from the West and launched an attack from the Northeast. Good progress was made and at the close of the period bitter house to house fighting was in progress for possession of ROTHBACH. Two enemy deserters from the 11 SS Mtn Regt taken by the 410th Inf claimed that the whole regiment had moved out of the ROTHBACH area and that elements of GAF, AA and VG were now defending the area. On the division right flank, the 409th Inf launched a raid on KINDWILLER (Q-9029) which was coordinated with a 101st Airborne Division raid on BITSCHHOFFEN, but alert enemy sentries reacted with heavy small arms and machine gun fire, forcing a withdrawal before the objective was reached 12/.

4. The 101st Airborne Division sector remained generally quiet. With the exception of a few rounds of light artillery fire on positions of the 327th Glider Inf, the only activity of the period occurred on the left flank in the 506th Prcht Inf sector where intermittent mortar and a few rounds of SP gun fire harassed frontline troops. After nightfall, a combat patrol launched a raid on BITSCHHOFFEN but were unable to penetrate the town's defenses. Heavy automatic weapons fire from an alert enemy caused the 506th Prcht Inf patrol to withdraw without reaching its objective 13/.

5. The 79th Division sector was generally quiet with no changes in frontline dispositions. Night patrols of the 313th and 314th Infs made several unsuccessful attempts to cross the swollen waters of the MODER River, while on the right the 315th Inf detected vehicular activity in the vicinity of CAMP D'OBERHOFFEN and on the SESSENHEIM (R-1822) - SCHIRRHOFFEN (R-1323) road. Although no physical contact with the enemy was made, scattered rounds of harassing artillery fire fell on all regimental sectors intermittently throughout the period, supplemented by mortar fire in the afternoon 14/.

6. In the 36th Division sector on the Corps right flank, heavy fighting continued throughout the period against a determined enemy who launched two moderate

11/. WRJ, 3 Feb - Entries #20, 36, 81 and 86.

12/. WRJ, 3 Feb - Entries #22, 25, 68 and 75.

13/. WRJ, 3 Feb - Entries #22 and 67; WRJ, 4 Feb - Entry #11.

14/. WRJ, 3 Feb - Entries #9, 22, 40, 55 and 66.

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counterattacks. Elements of the 142d Inf continued to mop up enemy resistance in OBERHOFFEN and were relieved in position by CC "B" 14th Armd Division during the afternoon. However, 3 to 5 tanks or SP guns supporting hostile infantry successfully resisted our efforts to mop up the northwestern corner of the town. At 2000A, 200 rounds of fire from 6 - 8 enemy tanks were placed in OBERHOFFEN and vicinity, while at the same time BISCHWILLER was subjected to 100 rounds of light and medium caliber artillery fire. In the sector East and Southeast of BISCHWILLER, the 143d Inf continued its attack through knee deep water and seized ROHRWILLER by 0630A after stiff small arms fighting. Many enemy dead were found in the streets and 210 prisoners were taken from the 22 SS PGR, 2 SS Police Regt and 21 SS PGR, but our own casualties exceeded the PW count. While elements consolidated positions in the town, receiving heavy 88mm tank and harassing artillery fire during the late afternoon, the column South of the MODER River seized the bridges at R-124172 and R-130168 and pressed forward to the road junction at R-136159 where small arms fighting dispersed the enemy. However, at first light a counterattack by infantry and tanks supported by SP and anti-tank gun fire from the Northeast forced our troops to withdraw approximately 800 yards Northwest to the stream at R-133164. Attached elements of the 142d Inf progressed through the BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM and gained positions at R-138173. At 0900A, a tank supported counterattack made initial penetrations behind forward positions, but the attackers were eventually repulsed after heavy fighting in which one Mk V tank was destroyed. The four enemy tanks knocked out during the day, including a Mk VI at OBERHOFFEN, were accounted for by the 636th TD Bn without loss to themselves. On the division right flank, 141st Inf elements attacked North at 0300A from the STADTWALD across badly flooded areas to reach the southern outskirts of HERRLISHEIM where machine gun, SP Gun and tank fire held up further advances. During the afternoon, the column was forced to withdraw to MEYERSHEIM because the flooded condition of the terrain precluded the employment of armor and supporting weapons. A 117th Cav Rcn Sq patrol towards OFFENDORF received mortar and artillery fire which forced a withdrawal before the town could be entered. Full scale operations in the 30th Division sector were suspended until improved weather could bring about better terrain conditions 15/.

7. No close air support missions were flown due to the rainy weather and poor visibility. However, one unidentified aircraft was engaged with unknown results as it flew over SAVERNE at 2127A.

8. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 74 dated 3 February was received, directing: VI Corps to relieve and move the 79th Division (with 813th TD Bn and 463d AAA AW Bn attached) to the PONT-A-MOUSSON (U-7735) area at 060800A. Upon arrival, the 79th Division and attached units would be relieved from attachment to VI Corps and revert to Army reserve 16/.

4 February

1. Several raids were conducted by VI Corps troops all along the front during 4 February as the enemy remained generally inactive except for placing harassing artillery fire on front line positions and in the HAGUENAU - BISCHWILLER area. The principal action again occurred on the east flank where 30th Division continued its attacks to clear the BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM against moderate resistance although flooded terrain greatly hampered operations. Regrouping was initiated

15/. WNJ, 3 Feb - Entries #1, 4, 21, 22, 24, 28, 37, 38, 40, 52, 53, 62, 69 and 82.

16/. Annex No. 8.

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in preparation for the relief of the 79th Division. Small groups of enemy observed moving about in the BOIS DE SOUFFLENHEIM (R-1420), coupled with the fact that the 256 VG Division had been out of contact for some time and statements of prisoners from the 10 SS Pz Division that a relief was anticipated, indicated that a relief of the 10 SS Pz Division by the 256 VG Division might be in progress. Poor visibility limited artillery fire almost entirely to ground observed missions. Several close-in targets were fired on successfully in the 36th Division sector and counterbattery fire in support of local ground actions was very effective.

2. On the Corps left flank, all regimental zones of the 45th Division remained generally quiet throughout the period with scattered artillery and mortar fire falling on front line elements. On the left, the 179th Inf conducted a company raid on an enemy position at Q-770395. Heavy resistance in the form of intense small arms fire was encountered in addition to considerable barbed wire, mines and booby-traps. One prisoner from the 11 SS Mtn Regt was taken at the objective. Several small patrols from the 179th Inf engaged the enemy in fire fights approximately 100 yards from our front lines in the vicinity of Q-763397 and Q-758403. Patrols of the 157th Inf and 36th Engr C Regt contacted the enemy and exchanged small arms fire. The 1st Bn 179th Inf was relieved from attachment to the 36th Engr C Regt and moved to WINGEN (Q-733360) at 1950A 17/.

3. The 103d Division sector was generally quiet with the exception of two successful raiding attacks executed under cover of darkness. On the left, the 411th Inf completed its raid on ROTHBACH early in the period after bitter house to house fighting. In addition to killing an estimated 50 enemy, this force took 24 prisoners from the 51 GAF Bn. During daylight hours only minor enemy activity was observed, but at 2000A a patrol of the 614th TD Bn conducted a successful surprise raid on a mill at Q-862323 which resulted in the capture of six Germans from the 51 GAF Bn and death of two more. 409th Inf night patrols to NIEFFERN ran into a minefield and suffered four casualties. Artillery fired on six enemy tanks at Q-918292, and one tank was seen to explode. Reserve elements of the 409th Inf commenced relief of the 506th Prcht Inf (101st Airborne Division) in the vicinity of NIEDERMODERN at 2200A 18/.

4. The 101st Airborne Division sector continued very quiet. At 2200A, relief of the 506th Prcht Inf on the left flank was commenced by elements of the 409th Inf (103d Division), while in the division central zone the 502d Prcht Inf relieved the 501st in position without incident, the latter unit moving to a reserve assembly area at MINVERSHEIM (Q-9121).

5. There was little activity in the 79th Division sector with local reliefs being completed without incident. The usual sporadic artillery and mortar fire fell on forward units along the division front during the night. The 313th Inf zone on the left flank was the most active. Before dawn, two or three enemy tracked vehicles in the vicinity of R-040243 were fired upon by artillery, while at daybreak two machine guns positions West of HAGUENAU were silenced by mortar fire. In the afternoon, HAGUENAU was the target for 10 rounds of hostile 150mm artillery fire. An aerial recon report disclosed an extensive program of tree felling in the woods North and Northeast of HAGUENAU with road blocks being made in at least 30 places and varying from 100 to 500 yards in length. This activity indicated that the enemy was planning only a delaying action back to the SIEGFRIED positions and was further substantiation of his present defensive intentions 19/.

17/. WRJ, 4 Feb - Entries #9, 33 and 54.

18/. WRJ, 4 Feb - Entries #5, and 12; WRJ, 5 Feb - Entry #15.

19/. WRJ, 4 Feb - Entries #8 and 57.

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6. On the Corps right flank, the 36th Division sector continued to be the most active although fighting and armored activity dropped off sharply in contrast with the previous period. On the left, CC "B" remained in defensive positions in the OBERHOFFEN area. In first possession of all but the northeast corner of the town. Harassing artillery fire was received early in the day and a patrol of CC "B" advanced to R-103207 without contacting the enemy. To the Southeast, elements of the 142d and 143d Infs attacked to clear the BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM. Pushing North from ROHRWILLER at 0300A, the 143d Inf force made no initial progress against heavy machine gun and small arms fire but later pushed out to R-128185. At the same time, 142d Inf elements attacked Northeast from within the woods, cut the DRUSENHEIM - ROHRWILLER road at R-135181 and reached the edge of the woods at R-138182 where heavy enemy artillery fire from DRUSENHEIM destroyed three supporting tanks before nightfall. Tank or SP gun fire also harassed ROHRWILLER and the bridge at R-130168 during the morning. While the condition of the terrain precluded pressing the attack on HERRLISHEIM, 141st Inf elements established a strongpoint at R-100157 and set up outposts in the vicinity. On the division right flank, a patrol of the 117th Cav Ron Sqn received 15 rounds of mortar fire when approaching OFFENDORF from the West, and a 10-man enemy patrol at R-118127 was dispersed by artillery fire 20/.

7. One mission of 12 sorties was flown in close support of VI Corps — 6½ tons of bombs being dropped on OFFWILLER opposite the 103d Division sector. Buildings were destroyed, road blocks were created and several fires were observed in the town. No hostile aircraft appeared over the Corps area.

8. At 1300A VI Corps Operations Instruction No. 36 was issued, directing: (a) the 45th Division to relieve the 36th Engr C Regt by 070800A February and the latter unit to revert to Corps control upon closing in rear assembly areas; (b) the 103d Division to extend to the East to Q-939271 to relieve elements of the 101st Airborne Division in sector by 060800A February; (c) the 101st Airborne Division to extend to the East to R-053235 to relieve elements of the 79th Division in sector by 060400A February; (d) the 36th Division to extend to the West to R-053235 to relieve elements of the 79th Division in sector by 060400A February; (e) the 79th Division (with 813th TD Bn and 463d AAA AW Bn attached) to assemble after being relieved and initiate movement by 060800A February to an assembly area in the vicinity of PONT-A-MOUSSON (U-7735), passing to control of Seventh Army upon arrival 21/.

5 February

1. The VI Corps front remained extremely quiet throughout 5 February except on the Corps right flank where the 36th Division consolidated positions in the ROHRWILLER area and had troops pressing on HERRLISHEIM and OFFENDORF at the close of the period. The regrouping in the right half of the Corps sector was completed, the 101st Airborne and 36th Divisions extending their sectors to effect relief of the 79th Division which prepared to move to an assembly area for rest and rehabilitation under Army control. Poor visibility continued to restrict both air and ground observed artillery missions although several targets of opportunity were engaged with good results. From extreme range, an enemy heavy caliber weapon, identified as a 280mm RR gun from shell fragments, placed two rounds in SAVERNE (Q-7215) at 0430A. No hostile aircraft appeared over the VI Corps area.

2. The 45th Division sector remained quiet throughout the day with scattered

20/. WRJ, 4 Feb - Entries #7, 21, 30, 49 and 57.

21/. Annex No. 7.

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artillery and mortar fire falling on forward units of the 157th and 179th Infs. ALTHORN and REIPERTSWILLER were the targets for several rounds of heavy artillery fire during the morning hours. At 2000A, an enemy 20-man combat patrol attacked 179th Inf front lines in the vicinity of Q-761268, [illegible] which lasted an hour before the enemy was forced to withdraw in the face of small arms and mortar fire. Tank destroyers illuminated the area with star shells to assist in directing artillery and mortar fire on the fleeing patrol. There was no contact over the rest of the front. At 2100A, the 1st Bn 179th Inf completed the relief of the 2d Bn 157th Inf which moved to an assembly area preparatory to relieving elements of the 36th Engr C Regt on 6 February 22/.

3. Frontline activity was negligible in the 103d Division sector, except for active patrolling that drew no reaction from the enemy. Hostile action was confined to a few rounds of artillery fire on PFAFFENHOFFEN during the early morning hours, followed by some mortar fire placed in the vicinity of Q-8629 in the afternoon. Local reliefs and adjustment of positions were completed in the 410th Inf sector without incident. On the right flank, elements of the 409th Inf completed relief of the 506th Prcht Inf in positions along the line Q-902275 - Q-939271 at 0055A, at which time the 103d Division assumed command of its new sector which had been extended East to Q-939271 23/.

4. Quiet prevailed along the entire front of the 101st Airborne Division - the only hostile action on the part of the enemy being that of a tank moving back and forth along the road between Q-930267 and Q-936263 while intermittently firing into positions of the 327th Glider Inf on the division right flank. Upon being relieved in position by elements of the 103d Division, the 506th Prcht Inf assembled in the ETTENDORF (Q-8823) - EICHHAUSEN (Q-8621) - BOSSENDORF (Q-8720) area and later moved to the HAGUENAU area and relieved the 313th Inf (79th Division) in position by 2245A. At this time the 101st Airborne Division assumed command of its new sector which embraced approximately half of the former 79th Division zone and resulted in an eastward extension of front lines along the south banks of the MODER River, through HAGUENAU, to R-055235 24/.

5. The 79th Division sector remained very quiet with light harassing artillery fire falling on all regimental sectors, and an 8 round concentration dropping in HAGUENAU before daylight. The only activity took place on the right flank where a 315th Inf night patrol crossed the river and reported a factory at R-037212 to be occupied by an estimated enemy squad but reached the points R-037210 and R-082214 without contact. The latter half of the period was given over to the relief of the 79th Division in position by elements of the 101st Airborne and 36th Divisions. After the 313th Inf had been relieved by the 506th Prcht Inf and the 314th and 315th Infs by the 141st and 142d Infs, respectively by 2215A, the 79th Division assembled in rear areas. Advance parties and service elements commenced movement to the new division assembly area in the vicinity of PONT-A-MOUSSON, while the main elements prepared to commence movement at 0430A the following morning 25/.

6. The 36th Division sector on the Corps right flank remained relatively quiet with the main enemy activity consisting of harassing the towns of OBERHOFFEN, HISCHWILLER and ROHRWILLER with artillery fire throughout the period - the heaviest concentration falling in the latter two towns. On the left, the 68th AIB with

22/. WRJ, 5 Feb - Entries #32, 58 and 67.

23/. WRJ, 5 Feb - Entries #13 and 59.

24/. WRJ, 5 Feb - Entries #52 and 73.

25/. WRJ, 5 Feb - Entries #18 and 36.

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tank support continued to press forward slowly towards the northwest edge of OBERHOFFEN, encountering small arms resistance from the vicinity of the church in addition to scattered mortar and artillery fire. Remaining elements of [illegible] assembled in the [illegible] (R-0517) - KURTZENHAUSEN (R-0515) area. In the BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM, the 142d Inf consolidated its positions and made local gains despite heavy artillery fire. 143d Inf positions in the ROHRWILLER area remained unchanged. Elements of the 141st Inf along the ZORN River West of HERRLISHEIM were relieved by the 117th Cav Rcn Sqn. On the right, a patrol of the 117th Cav Rcn Sqn reached the southwestern outskirts of OFFENDORF at 1600A without contacting the enemy but found the area heavily mined and booby-trapped. The 36th Cav Rcn Troop closed in the GEUDERTHEIM (R-0113) area. The latter half of the period was given over to the relief of approximately half the 79th Division sector to the left. The 141st and 142d Infs (-) relieved the 314th and 315th Infs, respectively, in position along the south banks of the MODER River by 2215A at which time the 36th Division assumed command of its new sector 26/.

6 February

1. The VI Corps front remained generally quiet on 6 February, activity limited to vigorous patrolling except on the Corps right flank where the 36th Division was heavily engaged in OBERHOFFEN and pushed forward to occupy HERRLISHEIM and OFFENDORF. The enemy remained defensive but generally inactive and a change in his dispositions developed with the identification of the 257 VG Division in OBERHOFFEN and [illegible] interrogation disclosed that the 10 SS [illegible] Division was being relieved to go to Germany. Although visibility during the day was limited by low-hanging clouds, air OPs of the Corps artillery took advantage of short breaks in the weather to make adjustments for missions on enemy batteries, vehicles and personnel. Harassing missions were fired during the night.

2. On the Corps West flank in the 45th Division sector, vigorous night patrols of all regiments and the 45th Cav Rcn Troop ranged forward and maintained contact with the enemy. On the left, the 179th Inf made no change in troop dispositions, and day patrols probing North, Northeast and East of AIRBORN detected mines, double concertina wire and camouflaged dug-in positions, and another patrol was engaged in a fire fight by an alert enemy outpost at Q-760409. On the right, the 36th Engr C Regt dispersed a small enemy group at Q-838359 with mortar fire. The scheduled relief of the 36th Engr C Regt by the 157th Inf (-1st Bn) was completed at 2030A after which the 36th Engrs commenced movement to assembly areas in the vicinity of PHALSBOURG (Q-6519) and ST. JEAN DE SAVERNE (Q-7219). The 180th Inf continued with its program of training and rehabilitation in a rear assembly area 27/.

3. The 103d Division sector was quiet but contact was kept with the enemy by patrolling. Enemy activity was negligible during the day although SP gun and mortar fire harassed forward elements of the 409th Inf on the right flank. Just before midnight, a small enemy patrol attempted to penetrate 410th Inf lines in the vicinity of [illegible]SCHHOLTZ but was driven off by fire 28/.

4. The 101st Airborne Division remained in position along the MODER River West from HAGUENAU and sent patrols across the river to maintain contact with the enemy. The division front was exceptionally quiet with only slight activity being observed in the HAGUENAU area.

26/. WRJ, 5 Feb —— Entries #31, 36, 47, 53 and 56.

27/. WRJ, 6 Feb —— Entries #12, 31, 55 and 63.

28/. WRJ, 7 Feb —— Entry #14.

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5. On the Corps right flank, the 36th Division sector continued to be the most active along the Corps front. On the division left flank, the 141st Inf remained in positions along the MODER River [illegible] without incident. To the right, elements of the 142d Inf held the remainder of the MODER River line to OBERHOFFEN where the 68th AIB (attached) was heavily engaged throughout the period in the vicinity of the church and crossroad at R-094206, making little progress against small arms, mortar, artillery and fire from one tank. Confirming previous indications, a change in enemy dispositions developed with the capture of six prisoners from the 466 VGR (257 VG Division) in OBERHOFFEN who stated the 10 SS Pz Division was being relieved for trans-shipment to the Russian front. With the relief of the 2d Bn 142d Inf in the BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM being effected, the 143d Inf assumed control of the sector extending generally along the line BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM - HERRLISHEIM - OFFENDORF. Pressing South with a small force, the 143d Inf cleared and occupied HERRLISHEIM without opposition, but found the town heavily mined. Elements of the 117th Cav Ren Sq cleared and occupied OFFENDORF, finding the town very heavily mined and booby-trapped, and then assembled in the WEYERSHEIM area. Patrols of the 143d Inf reached the edge of DRUSENHEIM, finding the town strongly held by the enemy, and penetrated to R-149120 and R-143112 without contact. Enemy artillery fire was scattered along the right half of the division front with the bulk falling in BISCHWILLER, ROHRWILLER and OBERHOFFEN. CC "B" (-) remained in the GRIES - KURTZENHAUSEN area 29/.

6. Following the division trains, combat elements of the 79th Division commenced movement to the PONT-A-MOUSSON area. The 313th RCT closed in its new area at 1315A and the 314th RCT was closing as the period ended, while the 315th RCT was still moving past the initial point at MOMMENHEIM (Q-9318).

7. Two missions of 24 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps troops and twelve tons of bombs were dropped on enemy rail movements in the vicinity of SELTZ (R-2733) resulting in the destruction of 17 flatcars and boxcars and damaging of 30. About 1330A, four P-47s with normal U.S. markings committed hostile acts over the Corps area. The planes, presumably piloted by the enemy, strafed between BRUMATH (Q-9715) and MOMMENHEIM, WINTERSHOUSE (Q-9722) and HAGUENAU, a gas dump and a cub airfield. Heavy and light AA engaged these planes with no results being claimed.

7 February

1. The VI Corps front remained generally quiet on 7 February with aggressive patrols and raiding parties comprising the bulk of operations against the enemy and local reliefs were completed without incident. However, on the active right flank, 36th Division troops made further progress towards clearing OBERHOFFEN and troops pushed further to the East and Northeast from OFFENDORF and HERRLISHEIM, with the enemy contesting every advance with stiff resistance. Missions by the Corps artillery were light during the period due to poor visibility and intermittent rain.

2. On the Corps left flank, the 45th Division maintained contact with the enemy by active and constant patrolling throughout the period. Some patrols drew fire while others had no contact, however considerable enemy movement and digging was observed. Frontline positions of the 179th Inf on the left and 157th Inf on the right received sporadic artillery fire during the early morning hours, supplanted by scattered mortar fire in the afternoon. The 157th Inf dispersed an enemy night patrol by small arms fire and organized and improved defensive positions

29/. WNJ, 6 Feb - Entries #3, 14, 26, 33 and 59.

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during the period. The 36th Engr C Regt completed assembling in rear areas and reverted to Corps control. The 180th Inf continued its program of training and rehabilitation with emphasis being placed on security, scouting and patrolling, care of weapons, development of offensive spirit and complete orientation of reinforcements 30/.

3. In the 103d Division zone, active patrols maintained contact with the enemy across the division front with enemy activity being negligible during the first half of the period. On the left, elements of the 410th Inf conducted a successful raid on BISCHHOLTZ at 0700A, taking 11 prisoners from the 51 GAF Bn and 87 GR. The division recon troop engaged a small enemy force in a fire fight just South of MUHLHAUSEN, but was unable to capture prisoners due to heavy enemy fire. On the right, a night patrol of the 409th Inf surprised two enemy soldiers in the vicinity of BITSCHHOFFEN and the resultant skirmish brought machine gun and mortar fire down on the patrol from nearby enemy positions. However, one German was killed and his papers identified the 935 GR (245 Inf Div). In the afternoon, enemy activity increased in the 409th Inf sector. A 35-man group observed digging in the vicinity of Q-912315 was taken under artillery fire which caused approximately 20 casualties, while another 50-100 man group digging at Q-905295 was also fired upon, with unknown results. Late in the period the 410th Inf was relieved in position by the 411th Inf 31/.

4. Quiet prevailed along the entire 101st Airborne Division front where enemy activity was confined to light, scattered small arms and mortar fire on forward positions. On the left, two patrols of the 502d Prcht Inf crossed the river in the vicinity of NEUBOURG and located enemy AA and machine gun positions but had no contact. In the division central sector, a battalion relief was effected without incident by the 327th Glider Inf, while on the right, light harassing artillery fire was received by the 506th Prcht Inf in HAGUENAU during the afternoon 32/.

5. The 36th Division sector continued to be the focal point of activity along the Corps front. No change in troop dispositions were made by the 141st and 142d Infs along the left half of the division front where enemy activity was at a standstill except for the 200 rounds of tank fire placed on KALTENHOUSE shortly after daybreak. In OBERHOFFEN the 68th AIB reached the northwest edge of the town at R-092207 and R-093208 against stubborn enemy resistance of small arms and bazooka fire. At 2000A the 68th AIB was relieved by the 1st Bn 142d Inf, reverted to control of CC "B" and commenced movement to an assembly area at BATZENDORF (Q-9720). On the right half of the division sector the 143d Inf continued to consolidate positions in the BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM and pushed forward from HERRLISHEIM and OFFENDORF to reach the points R-142167, R-144164, R-145155 and R-150142 where platoon outposts were established. Patrols to the area West and South of DRUSENHEIM contacted the enemy and located defenses and machine gun positions. Other patrols probing East and Northeast of OFFENDORF reported no contact 33/.

6. The 14th Armored Division, less CC "B" attached to the 36th Division for operations, remained in Corps reserve South of DETTWILLER from 1 to 7 February, inclusive, with no change in dispositions. The 79th Division (with 813th TD Bn and 463d AAA AW Bn attached) completed movement to an assembly area in the vicinity of PONT-A-MOUSSON, was relieved of attachment to VI Corps and reverted to 7th Army Control.

30/. WRJ, 7 Feb - Entries #12, 36, 58 and 75.

31/. WRJ, 7 Feb - Entries #14, 46 and 62.

32/. WRJ, 7 Feb - Entries #15, 45 and 65.

33/. WRJ, 7 Feb - Entries #28, 44 and 64.

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7. The weather prevented any air activity in support of VI Corps. However, at 1730A one hostile aircraft was engaged by heavy AA without results while flying high over HOCHFELDEN (Q-9218) on a reconnaissance mission.

8. At 1400A Operations Instruction No. 37 was issued: (a) directing the 36th Division to move CC "B" 14th Armd Division on 8 February to assembly areas in the vicinity of KIRVERSHEIM (Q-9120), HUTTENDORF (Q-9322), WINTERSHOUSE (Q-9721) and RATZENDORF (Q-9720), where it would revert to control of parent units; (b) confirming previous verbal instructions which had relieved the 14th Armored Division at 0412000A of responsibility for maintaining a recon screen along the Corps right (South) boundary from OLWISHEIM (Q-9511) to MARLENHEIM (Q-8103); (c) directing the 36th Engr C Regt to move to SARREBOURG - BACCARAT area on 9 February and revert to Army control, and (d) directing the 975th FA Bn to move immediately to the XV Corps area, relieved from attachment VI Corps on arrival in the new zone 34/.

8 February

1. Except for aggressive patrolling and raiding, the VI Corps front continued quiet on 8 February. Only minor enemy activity characterized the period as his defensive attitude remained unchanged. On the Corps right flank, however, the 36th Division continued to clear OBERHOFFEN against stubborn resistance and made further progress towards DRUSENHEIM. Elsewhere on the Corps front, contact with the enemy was scattered and light. Due to improved visibility, an increased number of observed missions were fired on enemy personnel, vehicles and weapon emplacements by the Corps artillery. During the night, a light harassing program was fired on enemy lines of communications.

2. In the 45th Division sector the 179th and 157th Infs carried out extensive patrol activity, maintained contact with the enemy and engaged in several minor clashes in which two prisoners from the 6 SS Recn Bn were taken. Improvement of defensive positions continued in both regimental sectors. Enemy activity was negligible and it appeared that the area remained lightly outposted by the 6 SS Mtn Division since some patrols were able to advance several hundred yards to the front without contact. Light, scattered artillery and mortar fire harassed frontline units, while forward installations of the 157th Inf at REIPERTSWILLER and LICHTENBERG (Q-815357) were subjected to an increased light caliber artillery fire in the afternoon 35/.

3. The 103d Division sector remained similarly quiet, the period being highlighted by a 409th Inf reinforced company raid on KINDWILLER during the early morning hours of darkness. Despite resistance of heavy small arms, automatic weapons and SP gun fire, the raid was successful, and nine prisoners and four deserters were taken from the 118 GR (36 VG Division) and 51 GAF Bn. From identifications made during the previous 48 hours, it appeared that the 36 VG Division - 245 Inf Division boundary ran between KINDWILLER and BITSCHHOFFEN. Patrols reported no contact along the rest of the division front where the enemy remained generally inactive except for an increase in small movements, indicating local reliefs 36/.

4. Along the 101st Airborne Division sector, recon patrols from the 502d Prcht Inf and 327th Glider Inf crossed the river under cover of darkness and observed enemy movements and activity, with only one patrol drawing some small arms

34/. Annex No. 7.

35/. WRJ, 8 Feb - Entry #23; WRJ, 9 Feb - Entry #7.

36/. WRJ, 8 Feb - Entries #12 and 32.

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fire. Daylight hours found the entire sector generally quiet, although a 75-100 man group of enemy infantry was observed moving South from MERTZWILLER (Q-9630) and dispersed by artillery fire of the 502d Prcht Inf. On the right, in the 79th Inf sector, enemy medium artillery and mortar fire increased to moderate, falling principally in HAGUENAU and to the West 37/.

5. The principal action of the day occurred in the 36th Division sector on the Corps right flank. Although the left half of the division front remained generally quiet, stubborn enemy resistance was again encountered in the northwest portion of OBERHOFFEN where elements of the 142d Inf were fighting to clear the town. After dark, an estimated 50-man counterattack infiltrated forward positions and retook eight houses in the vicinity of R-090209, and heavy house to house fighting was in progress as the period closed. On the right, the 143d Inf moved East through the BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM and established an outpost at R-151180. Elements in the HERRLISHEIM area moved Northeast to R-145165 and established an outpost at R-158175 on the southern edge of DRUSENHEIM while another force engaged in clearing the woods along the RHINE East of HERRLISHEIM, meeting resistance from pillboxes at R-160154 and R-162155. The 117th Cav Recn Sq and 36th Cav Recn Troop relieved the 141st Inf in position on the left flank and assumed command of the sector at 2115A. The 141st Inf (-1st Bn) assembled in the vicinity of WEYERSHEIM and HANHOFFEN (R-0917), while elements already in reserve at R-0322 prepared to relieve elements of the 143d Inf. An enemy document captured by the 36th Division indicated that the 905 Mobilization Division has assumed control of units formerly under the 553 VG Division 38/.

6. CC "B" closed in the MINVERSHEIM, HUTTENDORF, WINTERSHOUSE and BATZENDORF area at 1110A and was relieved of attachment to the 36th Division and reverted to 14th Armored Division control, in Corps Reserve.

7. One close air support mission of twelve sorties was flown by the XII TAC and 5½ tons of bombs and 16 rockets were dropped on SOUFFLENHEIM, rail movements at R-282548 and WISSEMBOURG with no results observed. There was no hostile air activity over the VI Corps zone.

2 February

1. The VI Corps sector remained quiet during 9 February except in the 36th Division sector where the attack to clear OBERHOFFEN continued against stubborn resistance and limited enemy aggressive action which featured three small scale counterattacks. Elsewhere along the Corps front vigorous patrolling maintained contact with the enemy whose activities were again on a minor scale. With improved visibility, several successful missions were fired on enemy personnel, vehicles, machine guns and mortars by the Corps artillery. A light harassing program was carried out during the night on enemy battery locations and lines of communications.

2. Active patrolling continued along the entire 45th Division front with contact varying from close to none up to 2000 yards. The usual scattered artillery and mortar fire harassed forward positions along both regimental fronts with the heaviest concentrations (totalling 120 rounds) again being placed on LICHTENBERG during the morning. After a 179th Inf patrol was fired on by enemy in position at Q-767392, friendly tank fire was directed on the position which was later found to be destroyed and abandoned. A patrol of the 157th Inf engaged in

37/. WRJ, 8 Feb - Entries #2 and 33.

38/. WRJ, 8 Feb - Entries #27, 31, 53 and 63; WRJ, 9 Feb - Entry #4.

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a fire fight with a small enemy group occupying three houses in REIPERTSWILLER, the Germans employing an American machine gun in this action. The 180th Inf continued its program of training and rehabilitation 39/.

3. The 103d Division sector remained very quiet as enemy activity continued to be negligible. However, patrols ranging across the division front to maintain contact, found the enemy alert. On the left in the 411th Inf zone, the enemy employed floodlights located behind ROTHBACH to illuminate this area in an apparent effort to discourage raiding parties. 411th Inf patrols encountered heavy resistance in the vicinity of HISCHHOLTZ and engaged in a small fire fight at Q-875296. A tank or SP gun at Q-851342 was knocked out by our artillery fire. On the right, patrols of the 409th Inf took three prisoners from the 104 GR (47 VG Division).40/.

4. The 101st Airborne Division sector was generally quiet although light harassing artillery and mortar fire was intermittently received along the division front. Vigorous patrolling was again undertaken and one patrol reached the northern edge of HAGUENAU and took one prisoner while others made no penetration due to enemy alertness 41/.

5. In the 36th Division sector, except for heavy house to house fighting at OBERHOFFEN, contact with the enemy was negligible. The left half of the division front, held by the 117th Cav Ren Sq, 36th Cav Ren Troop and 142d Inf (-) remained quiet. However, at OBERHOFFEN the 1st Bn 142d Inf continued its attack to clear the northwest portion of the town. Stubborn enemy resistance of small arms, automatic weapons, mortar and SP gun fire and limited aggressive action were encountered. Three small counterattacks of approximately 50 men each, at 1030A, 1300A and 1800A, were repulsed. The attack at 1800A which was preceded by a 300 round concentration of tank or SP gun fire, was beaten off after a small portion of the town had been lost and ten prisoners from the 466 VGR (257 VG Div) taken. Mines and booby traps were also encountered during the period. On the right, 141st Inf elements relieved 143d Inf troops in HERRLISHEIM, OFFENDORF and in outpost positions along the RHINE River in the sector. The relieved troops moved Northeast to positions at R-141164 and R-164160 in preparation for the attack on DRUSENHEIM, advance elements encountering determined automatic weapons fire from a pillbox at R-165162 and waterworks at R-148172. Enemy artillery fire during the period was generally light and limited to harassing fire on OBERHOFFEN, BISCHWILLER and KALTENHOUSE 42/.

6. Two missions of 21 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps. 10½ tons of bombs were dropped and 13 rockets fired on the town of KINDWILLER, the woods at R-098211 and a 35-car train at R-583465. In addition, all targets were strafed with overall good results being obtained. No hostile aircraft appeared over the Corps zone.

10 February

1. Activity on the VI Corps front during 10 February remained centered on the East flank where the 36th Division was heavily engaged with the enemy in OBERHOFFEN and was forced to withdraw from DRUSENHEIM after a strong enemy counterattack. It was apparent that both OBERHOFFEN and DRUSENHEIM were key points in the enemy's MLR, evidenced by his stubborn fighting to prevent a pene-

39/. WRJ, 9 Feb - Entries #6, 25, 37 and 46.

40/. WRJ, 9 Feb - Entries #5, 21 and 46; WRJ, 10 Feb - Entry #16.

41/. WRJ, 9 Feb - Entries #12 and 24.

42/. WRJ, 9 Feb - Entries #20, 44 and 46.

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tration that would threaten to turn his East flank. The remainder of the Corps front was quiet with activity limited to normal patrolling while the enemy's attitude continued defensive. Corps and division artillery fired observed missions on enemy personnel, vehicles and [illegible] missions were also fired on suspected enemy positions and a light harassing program was fired during the night.

2. Positions remained unchanged along the 45th Division front on the Corps left flank as extensive and vigorous patrolling was continued by the 179th and 157th Infs. Considerable minor enemy activity was observed and there was a decided increase in activity North and Northwest of ROTHBACH where the enemy was apparently attempting to build up his OPL. A combat patrol of the 157th Inf dispersed an enemy patrol after a heavy small arms fire fight at Q-845355, while active enemy mortars in the vicinity of Q-829384 were silenced by counter-mortar fire. On the left flank the 179th Inf placed direct 90mm fire on enemy positions at Q-767392 and Q-785384 and after dark a propaganda broadcast caused the enemy to expend more than 70 flares in an apparent effort to frustrate any desertion attempts 43/.

3. The 103d Division front was exceptionally quiet during the period as the enemy confined his activity to scattered movement in rear areas. Patrols of the 411th and 409th Infs were active and probed forward to maintain contact. No changes in troop dispositions were made. A similar quiet prevailed along the 101st Airborne Division front where defensive attitudes were maintained by both sides. Enemy activity was confined to light small arms and harrassing mortar and artillery fire on forward elements and twenty rounds of 170mm artillery fire on the southeastern portion of HARTHEIM at mid-day 44/.

4. Highlighting the action along the Corps front, 36th Division troops continued to engage the enemy in heavy fighting at OBERHOFFEN and launched an attack on DRUSENHEIM. The division left flank remained quiet with a patrol from the 117th Cav Ron Sq crossing the river at R-055238 and investigating the area without contact. In the division central sector, the 142d Inf attack to clear OBERHOFFEN continued throughout the period. With elements crossing the MODER River at R-085208 to constitute an outflanking threat, the remainder of the 142d Inf attacked Northwest from within OBERHOFFEN and succeeded in seizing the railroad station and factory in the vicinity of R-088211 despite considerable automatic weapons, SP gun, mortar and artillery fire coming principally from the woods North and East of the town where the enemy yielded an estimated 170 prisoners from the 257 VG Division. However, at 1830A the enemy launched a counter-attack and succeeded in retaking the factory after close and prolonged fighting, and as the period closed the 142d Inf was making a renewed effort to reoccupy the factory and to reduce a small pocket at R-093209. To the East, the 143d Inf had attacked East and Northeast at 0530A in a dual-pronged drive towards DRUSENHEIM. Despite stubborn resistance of heavy small arms and machine gun fire in addition to anti-personnel and anti-tank mines and artillery fire from the east side of the RHINE, attacking elements reached the outskirts of the town on the North and South of the MODER River. However, troops of the 905 Mob Division launched two counterattacks supported by tanks which forced the 143d Inf to withdraw during the afternoon. In view of the heavy casualties (150-200 men) suffered in the fighting at DRUSENHEIM and the formidable fortifications of the town, the Corps Commander instructed the 36th Division Commander to "button up" and hold defensive positions in the vicinity until dry ground conditions would permit the

43/. WRJ, 10 Feb - Entries #5, 46 and 53.

44/. WRJ, 10 Feb - Entries #8, 17, 35 and 53.

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full exploitation and coordination of all supporting arms. In the meantime aerial bombardment and artillery fire would be employed to soften up the enemy's defenses. The importance the enemy placed in this area was apparent when four battalions of the 257 VG Division were identified in OBERHOFFEN and at least two battalions of the 905 Mobilization Division were found to be defending DRUSENHEIM. 45/.

5. One mission of 11 sorties was flown in close support of VI Corps and five tons of bombs were dropped on an enemy CP at Q-835473 and in EGURLSHARDT (Q-832468) with only fair results. At 0835A one low-flying jet-propelled Me-262 dropped two HE bombs in the vicinity of the bridge at R-1217, causing no damage. The plane was engaged by light AA without results.

11 February

1. The principal activity along the VI Corps front took place in OBERHOFFEN where 36th Division elements repulsed a strong enemy attack during the morning. The remainder of the Corps front was quiet with activity limited to aggressive patrolling and improving of defensive positions. Artillery fire was light during the period, concentrating on enemy personnel and vehicular activity.

2. Positions of the 45th Division remained generally quiet as patrols continued to make contact with the enemy throughout the division zone. After dark illuminating flares were used by the enemy against the possibility of an attack or to prevent desertions in response to PWB broadcasts, and the enemy showed himself sensitive and alert to our night patrols toward the end of the period. The 179th Inf sector on the division left received light harassing artillery fire during the morning while the 157th Inf sector on the right and the town of REIPERTSWILLER received intermittent artillery fire throughout the period. A 157th Inf patrol engaged a 3-man enemy patrol in a small arms fight in the vicinity of Q-837378 and captured two wounded prisoners from the 6 SS Recn Bn (6 SS Mtn Div). The 130th Inf continued its training and rehabilitation program in rear areas 46/.

3. The 409th and 411th Infs continued to improve previously held positions on the left and right sectors, respectively, of the quiet 103d Division front. Enemy activity was negligible during the day except for small enemy groups observed in the vicinity of HITSCHHOFFEN, KINDWILLER and MIETESHEIM during the morning and a 20-man group in the woods at Q-900320 which was taken under artillery fire at 1400A with good results. However, patrols in the vicinity of MUHLHAUSEN and NIEFFERN were engaged by enemy armed with machine guns. A successful simulated raid on ROTHBACH was made by elements of the 411th Inf without enemy reaction 47/.

4. No changes were made in dispositions of 101st Airborne Division as patrols and raiding parties maintained contact with the enemy throughout the period. The division sector was generally quiet during the early morning hours of darkness except for considerable enemy flare activity and light artillery fire West of SCHWEIGHAUSEN at 0525A. The enemy remained very inactive and no contact was reported until after dark when patrols reported heavy flare activity again, and light artillery and SP gun shelling on front line positions late in

45/. WRJ, 10 Feb - Entries #9, 48, 51 and 70.

46/. WRJ, 11 Feb - Entries #10, 11, 54, 63 and 68.

47/. WRJ, 11 Feb - Entries #30, 62 and 67.

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the period 48/.

5. On the 36th Division front, the principal action of the period again centered around OBERHOFFEN, but close contact was maintained in all other sectors. On the left, a patrol of the 117th Cav Ron Sq reached R-054241 where an enemy patrol and wire entanglements were encountered; otherwise, the sector remained quiet. The 142d Inf remained heavily engaged in OBERHOFFEN, and elements in the center of the town received an attack at 0900A by an estimated 270 enemy infantry supported by two SP guns from the woods at R-097205. The enemy offensive temporarily cut the main road at R-095202 but after several hours of heavy fighting in which approximately 180 prisoners (including the CO of I Bn 477 GR) were taken and the two SP guns knocked out, the remnants were forced to withdraw and former positions had been restored. However, hostile troops were still reported in the cemetery at R-097201 and the enemy still held the factory at R-088211. On the right half of the division front, the 141st Inf sent patrols towards DRUSENHEIM but heavy small arms, machine gun and tank fire held them up 200 yards East of the BOIS DE DRUSENHEIM. The balance of the regiment remained in position along the RHINE River on the division right flank and in assembly at HERRLISHEIM. After making three unsuccessful attempts to reduce the pillboxes at R-157169 in the face of heavy fire, the 2d Bn 143d Inf was relieved in positions at R-157167, R-156172 and R-150173 by the AT Co 141st Inf, and commenced assembly in the vicinity of WEITBRUCH (R-0317). The remainder of the 143d RCT closed in assembly areas at BERNOLSHEIM and NIEDERSCHAFFOLSHEIM. After dark, the enemy was active with patrols and alert to our movements 49/.

6. One mission of 12 sorties flown by the XII TAC in close support of VI Corps bombed CAMP D'OBERHOFFEN, destroying six barracks buildings and damaging three, and also strafed woods East of the target.

12 February

1. The VI Corps sector was quite inactive except for light action in the vicinity of OBERHOFFEN in the 36th Division zone. After the enemy had been cleared from the OBERHOFFEN RR Station and the area South of the RR tracks, the factory, scene of bitter previous period fighting, was destroyed by 36th Division artillery and the RR station by enemy artillery. The remainder of the Corps units maintained contact with the enemy by vigorous patrols to which the enemy showed himself alert, though he retained a purely defensive attitude generally along the rest of the front. Hostile artillery fire was light and of a harassing nature through most of the period.

2. The 45th Division sector remained generally quiet during the night of 11-12 February except for scattered artillery fire on 179th Inf front line elements and light artillery fire on forward positions of the 157th Inf. Contact was maintained by active patrolling, one patrol of the 179th Inf capturing a prisoner from the 4th Co 11 SS Mtn Regt whose interrogation disclosed that our WB broadcasts of the previous period were successful but that stringent measures were being taken to prevent desertions. Plans were made during the morning for a raid by 179th Inf elements to Q-767393 and a diversionary patrol to Q-772390. The raid got off late in the afternoon But was unable to reach its objective because of small arms and machine gun fire while the diversionary action encountered heavy mortar fire and grenades and withdrew when the main body was halted. Minor enemy activity was

48/. WRJ, 11 Feb - Entries #11 and 70; WRJ, 12 Feb - Entries #11, 60 and 70.

49/. WRJ, 11 Feb - Entries #9, 11, 21, 23, 49 and 74.

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reported North of SARGMUHL and ALTHORN and REIPERTSWILLER was smoked during the morning and harassed by an 88mm gun during the afternoon 50/.

3. Patrols of the 103d Division were active during the night hours of 11-12 February and contact was reported by the 411th Inf in the vicinity of MUHLHAUSEN. Daylight patrols of the 409th Inf received sporadic nebelwafer fire from MITTESHEIM and LA WALCK, and noted some hostile activity in NIEDERN. A prisoner taken near RITSCHHOFFEN from the engineer battalion of the 36 VG Division indicated that his division held the entire front facing the 103d Division and that the 245 VG Division had been completely withdrawn. After dark the enemy (believed to be the 113 GR) in RITSCHHOFFEN was particularly alert, employing heavy machine pistol fire and grenades against our patrols. About 2155 the enemy placed 40 rounds of mortar fire on positions in the vicinity of Q-865308, but the lack of hostile artillery fire throughout the period seemed to substantiate the information received from a prisoner (an artillery observer from the 165 VGR) taken the previous day - that enemy ammunition was extremely scarce and was frozen for the time being 51/.

4. The 101st Airborne Division continued to improve positions and maintain active patrols to the front throughout the period. A night patrol took a prisoner in the vicinity of Q-985262 at 0230A who was later identified as belonging to the 115 VGR (47 VG Division). Very little more contact was made with enemy who remained generally inactive during the period. Light harassing artillery and mortar fire fell during the morning hours while mortar and machine gun fire were received in the vicinity of R-008250 at 1530A. After dark, the division regrouped its forces establishing four regimental sectors, the 502d Prcht Inf, 501st Prcht Inf, 327th Glider Inf and 506th Prcht Inf on a line from left to right between Q-938272 - Q-965268 - Q-990253 - R-022240 - R-052236, each with two battalions in line and one in reserve. The regrouping was completed and units assumed command of their new sectors at 2245A 52/.

5. The 36th Division sector continued active, contact being maintained during the night as the enemy countered our patrolling program with strong patrols of his own. At 0200A, a strong enemy patrol attempted to infiltrate 142d Inf positions in the vicinity of R-086211 but was repulsed and our patrol across the MODER River met heavy small arms and mortar fire from the vicinity of R-055237 and R-064228. During the day, fighting continued around the RR station and factory in the northwest part of OBERHOFFEN. A platoon-size raid by the 142d Inf jumped off at 0920A and seized the factory, taking 29 prisoners, and then withdrew after setting up a 6-man outpost. Subsequently, however, the enemy staged a raiding party of his own and retook the building shortly before noon. In the afternoon the factory was cleared of this hostile force and set on fire by artillery, and the enemy retaliated by burning the RR station where 142d Inf elements had taken up positions. Light artillery and S[illegible] gun fire was received in OBERHOFFEN during the morning while concentrations of light caliber fire fell generally all along the division front during the afternoon. After dark, the enemy was very inactive; our patrols reached R-117216 and R-114014 without contact, however activity was reported in the vicinity of two road blocks located at R-157169 and R-160170. The sectors of the 141st and 143d Infs remained generally quiet except for light artillery fire along the front. No enemy activity or contact was reported in the 117th Cav Rcn Sq sector 53/.

6. Bad weather prevented any air activity during the period.

50/. WRJ, 12 Feb - Entries #10, 24, 27, 42, 53 and 62.

51/. WRJ, 12 Feb - Entries #10, 29, 34 and 53.

52/. WRJ, 12 Feb - Entries #26, 53 and 59; WRJ, 13 Feb - Entry #11.

53/. WRJ, 12 Feb - Entries #8, 10, 20, 21, 28, 41, 44, 52 and 53.

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13 February

1. Daylight activity was extremely light along the VI Corps front during 13 January as the four divisions in line continued to maintain their active patrol programs with little contact. However, night patrols found the enemy alert and aggressive, engaging them with prepared defensive fires. The flooded condition of the MODER and RHINE Rivers hampered night patrol activity in these areas and forced 36th Division RHINE River outposts to withdraw to positions along the dike. Corps artillery fire was of a light harassing nature chiefly on lines of communications and known OP's.

2. The 45th Division sector continued generally quiet during the period with very little enemy activity being observed and no changes in dispositions of division units. Plans for a strong patrol program the night of 13-14 February were outlined by noon with a 30-man combat patrol led by an officer organized to check Hill 380.8 (Q-643977) and five strong recon patrols to capture enemy troops. Attempts to take prisoners proved unsuccessful as the enemy maintained an alert defensive attitude throughout the period. Frontline areas received light harassing artillery and mortar fire during the day particularly during the morning in the HABSHEIM - LICHTENBERG sector. 54/.

3. There was no change in dispositions along the static 103d Division front as routine patrols continued to probe out enemy forward positions and took a prisoner from the 3d Co 506 PG Bn near ROTHBACH shortly after midnight. The prisoner from the Engr Bn 36 VG Division, captured on 12 February, stated his division had ordered 39,000 mines to supplement their present local production of 60 mines a day in the sawmill at Q-920338 and also reported a secondary defense line under construction between EHONVILLER and GUMBRECHTSHOFFEN. A group of approximately 40 enemy at Q-903324 and several small groups moving between MIETESHEIM and UTTENHOFFEN was the extent of hostile activity observed during the daylight hours. Sporadic enemy mortar fire fell on the division zone between LA WALCK and Q-907269 during the afternoon. Hostile artillery on the whole was negligible but considerable flare activity was reported in the division zone during the hours of darkness. After dark, a raiding party to NIEDERSEN ran into mines and an alert enemy who fired at them with automatic weapons and cross machine gun fire, to force a withdrawal 55/.

4. The 101st Airborne Division sector remained similarly quiet with no change in dispositions following the regrouping on 12 February. Very light harassing artillery, mortar, machine gun and SP gun fire was received during the morning and sporadic artillery fire in the vicinity of HAGUENAU late in the afternoon. Three patrols crossed the MODER River at scattered points between the west side of HAGUENAU and Q-965274, making contact with the enemy and capturing two enemy soldiers from the 115 VGR (47 VG Div). Heavy grenade and machine gun opposition was encountered by the patrol to the east side of HAGUENAU from buildings in the vicinity of the river bend 56/.

5. With the 36th Division attack halted because of the flooded areas along the MODER and RHINE Rivers, and the enemy content to remain passive defensively, the east flank of the Corps remained quiet. During the afternoon, 30 enemy were taken under artillery fire at R-128220 and dispersed. Enemy artillery fire during the day was light except for a 100 round mixed caliber concentration on 142d Inf positions in OBERHOFFEN between 1815 - 1825A. Flood conditions along the west

54/. WRJ, 13 Feb - Entries #25, 26, 34, 57 and 68.

55/. WRJ, 13 Feb - Entries #5, 33 and 58.

56/. WRJ, 13 Feb - Entries #11, 31 and 59; WRJ, 14 Feb - Entries #3 and 17.

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bank of the RHINE forced 141st RCT outposts to take up alternate positions along the dike West of the river although individual outposts remained along the river. Patrols of the 142d Inf across the MODER North to R-092212 and R-098209 late in the period drew machine gun, mortar and small arms fire from the Northeast and encountered 25 dug-in enemy near the factory at R-085213. A combat patrol of the 141st RCT on the East flank went to R-168159 where they encountered barbed wire and then to R-168163 where the area was found to be two to three feet under water 57/.

6. Five missions of 59 sorties were flown by the XII TAC in close support of VI Corps. Of the three which bombed and strafed the town of DRUSENHEIM, the first destroyed 20 buildings and damaged 20 others, the second left the town burning and covered with smoke and the third caused a large explosion and set fires in the southwestern part of town. A fourth mission bombed and strafed a gun position, destroying one barracks building and the gun positions at R-127183, while a fifth mission bombed and strafed the town of BAERENTHAL, destroying 17 buildings and two gun positions.

7. Operations Instruction No. 38 was issued at 1500A, generally directing: (a) the attachment of the 69th Armd FA Bn to the 45th Division, effective 10 February; (b) the movement to the XV Corps of the 693d FA Bn and its relief from attachment to VI Corps on arrival in its new area; (c) the attachment of the 567th AAA AW Bn to the 35th AAA Brig and the employment of at least one battery as AAA defense of the Army Supply Area at SARREBOURG in accordance with Seventh Army Movement Order No. B-92 of 11 February 58/.

8. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 77 and 78 of this date were received late in the day. No. 77 directed (a) the 42d Infantry Division to move to the VI Corps sector before 180001, attached on arrival, and (b) VI Corps to relieve and move the 45th Infantry Division to Army Reserve areas. No. 78 directed a westward shift of the VI Corps right boundary not later than 202400A upon completion of relief by the First French Army which was scheduled to assume responsibility for the narrow corridor along the west bank of the RHINE. The new boundary ran generally BRUMATH - WEITBRUCH - OBERHOFFEN - SOUFFLENHEIM - LAUTERBOURG 59/.

14 February

1. The VI Corps sector continued generally quiet with division elements improving positions and sending out patrols to maintain light contact. A slight increase in enemy aggressive patrol activity occurred in the vicinity of REIPERTSWILLER and SCHWEIGHAUSEN during the night where enemy unsuccessfully attempted to breach forward lines. A light harassing program was carried out by Corps artillery during the night and several observed missions were successfully fired during the period, on enemy personnel, vehicles, machine guns and mortars. Rising water forced 36th Division outposts along the RHINE River to make further slight withdrawals.

2. The 45th Division front continued static, dispositions remaining the same throughout the period with no enemy contact reported the night of 13-14 February in spite of strong patrolling by the 179th and 157th RCTs, although considerable flare activity was observed on the right of the 179th Inf sector. During the day the enemy was particularly alert West of WILDENGUTH and Southeast of ALTHORN on

57/. WRJ, 13 Feb - Entries #3, 10, 20, 24, 27, 32, 43, 60 and 69; WRJ, 14 Feb - Entries #5 and 18.

58/. Annex No. 7; WRJ, 13 Feb - Entry #36.

59/. Annex No. 8.

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the division left flank where he engaged patrols with small arms fire throughout the day. One hostile aggressive action took place at Q-813370 when a small patrol engaged our OPL East of REIPERTSWILLER with small arms fire and grenades; the action was successfully repulsed. Scattered enemy artillery was received on forward positions and light harassing fire in the vicinity of ALTHORN and REIPERTSWILLER during the day. Numerous observed missions were fired on personnel targets along the front throughout the period by supporting divisional artillery. The 180th Inf continued its training and rehabilitation program in rear areas 60/.

3. The enemy remained extremely inactive during the day on the 103d Division front with only small groups of enemy observed moving about in the ENGWILLER and MIETESHEIM areas. A column of trucks with hostile infantry moving South in the vicinity of Q-917384 was fired on by divisional artillery at 1520A; one SP gun at Q-876315 was knocked out by artillery at 1630A and enemy personnel in the woods at Q-901321 were dispersed by artillery at 1650A. The enemy reaction was negligible - limited to only six rounds of mortar during the day and 20 rounds of mortar in the vicinity of Q-861257 at 2130A 61/.

4. Patrols of the 101st Airborne Division continued to make contact with enemy forces during the night by active probing across the MODER River, but little hostile activity was recorded during the day except for light harassing artillery and mortar fire during the morning. However, between 2000 and 2200A, the enemy placed a concentration of 500-600 rounds of medium artillery and heavy mortar fire in the area between NEUBOURG and SCHWEIGHAUSEN and followed up this display with an unsuccessful raid of about 30 men in the vicinity of Q-989257. The two prisoners captured from this patrol were from the 115 VGR (47 VG) and stated their mission was to determine our dispositions since they had been expecting us to attack. A 502d Prcht Inf patrol crossed the river following the attack and penetrated to Q-959274 without establishing contact 62/.

5. No changes were made in 36th Division dispositions during the period except for outposts of the 141st Inf that were forced to withdraw to the dike along the west edge of the woods (R-183163 - R-143110) from the OPL along the RHINE River because of high water. The division sector was generally quiet throughout the day with the enemy defensive and alert to efforts to patrol his lines. Hostile activity was negligible in the division sector except for light, harassing artillery fire in the vicinity of BISCHWILLER and OBERHOFFEN, constant harassing fire on the roadway bridge East of BISCHWILLER, and an estimated 15 rounds of 330mm fire on BRUMATH (Q-9714) between 0015 and 0305A from a RR gun to the North or Northeast. Minor activity occurred at a road block in the vicinity of R-142198 when the enemy withdrew under pressure from a raiding patrol and resisted with machine guns at R-143195 and R-144197 and with mortars at R-143201. Moderate enemy activity was reported South of DRUSENHEIM after dark by patrols actively reconnoitering the area 63/.

6. Two missions of 23 sorties were flown by the XII TAC in close support of VI Corps. The first bombed and strafed an enemy CP at Q-835473, destroying two buildings and damaging four; the second bombed and strafed a RR bridge at R-228273, damaging the north end of the bridge and making a rail cut near the bridge. Eight Me-262s (jet-propelled) appeared over the Corps sector, all of them apparently on reconnaissance missions.

7. At 1400A, Operations Instruction No. 39 was issued, directing: (a) the

60/. WRJ, 14 Feb - Entries #2, 4, 35, 42 and 77.

61/. WRJ, 14 Feb - Entries #40 and 64; WRJ, 15 Feb - Entry #11.

62/. WRJ, 14 Feb - Entry #79; WRJ, 15 Feb - Entries #4 and 11.

63/. WRJ, 14 Feb - Entries #30, 41 and 55.

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42d Division to assemble prior to 161300A and relieve the 45th Division in sector before 190600A; (b) the 45th Division (with 106th AAA AW Bn attchd) to move to an area designated by Seventh Army, as relieved, and revert to Army reserve upon completion of movement; and (c) the relief of the 69th Armd FA Bn, 645th TD Bn, 191st Tk Bn and 83d Cml Mortar Bn (-Cos A & B) from attachment to the 45th Division and their immediate attachment to the 42d Division 64/.

15 February

1. The VI Corps front remained quiet throughout 15 February as reliefs were completed in the 103d and 36th Division sectors without incident. On the Corps East flank in the vicinity of the RHINE River, outposts were forced to remain along the dike because of the flooded condition of the river although one outpost in the Southeast of the Corps sector was able to take up its former position along the river. Except for his raid West of HAGUENAU, which was successfully repulsed, the enemy retained his strictly defensive attitude. Continued good visibility permitted air and ground OPs to engage numerous observed targets with good results; one of the four hostile tanks observed during the period was destroyed and another damaged by artillery fire. Enemy artillery continued light harassing fire on frontline units.

2. There were no changes in 45th Division dispositions as patrols continued to maintain contact with the enemy. Forward positions of the 179th Inf on the left with 157th Inf on the right were improved throughout the day in preparation for relief by the 42d Infantry Division, commencing 16 February. The front was generally quiet during the early night hours except when an enemy patrol engaged a forward position (Q-834470) at 0140A with hand grenades and small arms fire and was repulsed without casualties. During the afternoon a 179th Inf patrol on the West flank observed approximately 20 enemy working on wired-in positions protected by Schu mines at Q-758410. Scattered enemy artillery fell at Q-750400 in the 179th sector at 1900A while Division artillery fired normal harassing missions throughout the period. There was no enemy activity reported in the 157th Inf sector during the day. A deserter from the 11 SS Mtn Regt (6 SS Mtn Division) was picked up in the vicinity of Q-746409 during the afternoon 65/.

3. Both the 409th and 411th Infs continued to send out active patrols into enemy held areas on the 103d Division front but made no contact with the enemy during the period. Considerable hostile flare activity took place during the early night hours as well as moderate artillery and mortar fire but the enemy remained inactive throughout the day except for several small patrols observed in the vicinity of Q-929278, Q-933314 and in MIETESHEIM. A tank in the vicinity of NIEFFERN was destroyed by division artillery at 2145A and an SP gun believed located at Q-926289 fired several rounds into the division right central zone. After dark, vehicular movement was heard in the vicinity of NIEFFERN and long range machine gun fire was received from North of the town at 2315A 66/.

4. The 101st Airborne Division maintained four regimental sectors during the period, each regiment holding its line with a reinforced battalion. No contact was made with enemy forces during the day, but night patrols from each regimental sector reported sharp contact from an alert foe and brought back seven prisoners from the 103d VGR in the vicinity of HAGUENAU indicating that the 47 VG Division had extended its sector to the East. It was believed this change was probably the result of recent heavy losses suffered by the 257 VG Division in the OBERHOFFEN

64/. Annex No. 7

65/. WDJ, 15 Feb - Entries #5, 11, 43 and 55.

66/. WDJ, 15 Feb - Entries #11, 27 and 43; WDJ, 16 Feb - Entry #11.

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area 67/.

5. The 36th Division sector continued quiet during the period as the enemy retained a purely passive defensive attitude throughout. However, patrols of the 142d Inf in OBERHOFFEN and the 141st Inf near DRUSENHEIM continued to contact enemy groups throughout the period. A 10-man enemy patrol was observed at R-147190 at 0130A, two prisoners were taken at R-086212 and 25 other enemy observed entrenched in the vicinity of the factory North of OBERHOFFEN, while troop and vehicle movement were observed in the vicinity of R-051244. On the division east flank during the afternoon, enemy in position at R-143198 engaged our patrol with small arms fire when it reached R-142197. Enemy artillery during the day continued light, scattered and of an harassing nature - the heaviest shelling being a 25-round concentration on OBERHOFFEN at 1545A. Division artillery immobilized a tank of unknown type during the morning and dispersed two half-tracks at R-052243. The eleven 141st Inf outposts on the division right flank remained along the dike on the west edge of the woods South from R-168163 to the right boundary. The entire division sector was generally quiet during the late night hours of the period except for the scattered artillery fire of mixed caliber on forward elements and a heavy mortar and artillery concentration in the 117th Cav Ren Sq sector in the vicinity of R-047226 between 1845A and 2130A. After dark, 143d Inf elements moved into OBERHOFFEN and had relieved the 142d Inf in position by 2045A 68/.

6. Early in the period a 380mm enemy RR gun harassed the area of SAVERNE with 12 rounds and at the same time the enemy fired a 170mm gun in order to deceive our sound and flash locator system. Examination of 5 shell craters in SAVERNE showed about 400 yards dispersion as all impact shells are believed to have been fired at the same range and deflection. Photographs of rail cuts of the suspected HOFFEN (R-1536) area failed to reveal any gun emplaced or unusual activity.

7. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 79 of this date was received, directing: That VI Corps move the 45th Division (with 106th AAA AW Bn attached) to Army area to revert to Army reserve 69/.

16 February

1. The VI Corps front remained generally quiet during 16 February when a platoon-sized enemy attack on REIPERTSWILLER during the morning was the extent of aggressive action by hostile infantry. Enemy artillery concentrated its fire on the HAGUENAU - OBERHOFFEN area and Corps artillery fired numerous observed missions during the day, particularly on personnal targets on the front of the 45th Division. Late in the period the 42d Division commenced relief of the 45th Division on the Corps left flank.

2. 45th Division patrols continued to probe enemy forward positions without making contact during the night which was quiet except for machine gun fire at Q-761398 and scattered enemy artillery in the vicinity of Q-754405 on the 179th Inf front and light mortar fire on 157th Inf frontline positions on the division right. At 0730A the 179th Inf repulsed a platoon size combat patrol raid on WILDENGUTH by 11 SS Mtn Regt troops whose mission, according to PW reports, was to seize the town and take civilian and military prisoners. Following this raid the

67/. WRJ, 16 Feb - Entries #7, 11 and 15.

68/. WRJ, 15 Feb - Entries #11, 27, 43, 57 and 58; WRJ, 16 Feb - Entry #11.

69/. Annex No. 8.

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enemy became inactive along the entire divisional front. The 222d Inf (42d Div) closed in the area late in the afternoon and had completed relief of 179th Inf in position by 2130A without incident, assuming responsibility of the sector at 2200A. 42d Division artillery arrived in the area at 1130A and was set up and ready to fire by 1700A. 70/.

3. The 103d Division front was unusually quiet throughout the day in spite of regimental patrols actively probing enemy positions. This state of calm continued until 1900A when approximately 250 rounds of Nebelwerfer fire, interspersed with medium and heavy artillery fire, fell along the division right sector on the 409th Inf front between OBERMODERN (Q-8527) and NIEDERMODERN in addition to 12 rounds of heavy artillery in NIEDERSOULTZBACH (Q-8829). However, the only follow-up of this concentration was a small patrol which was quickly repulsed as it attempted to penetrate lines at Q-853325. 71/.

4. All four regiments of the 101st A/B Division patrolled North of the MODER River the night of 15 - 16 February and three patrols established contact with alert enemy groups who reacted with machine gun and rifle fire. The 501st Prcht Inf patrol captured one prisoner who identified the 115 VGR (47 VG Div). However, no enemy artillery, mortar or patrol activity was reported throughout the rest of this quiet day 72/.

5. The enemy remained similarly passive in his defense of the 36th Division front throughout the period. During the unusually quiet night the sharp reaction of an enemy machine gun at R-122209 was the only contact established by the many division patrols probing enemy positions. Hostile artillery was generally scattered during the early morning hours when harassing fire of all calibers fell on forward elements and some heavy mortar fire was reported in the vicinity of R-0920 and KALTENHOUSE. During the afternoon and evening artillery fire was very light and harassing in nature 73/.

6. One mission of 16 sorties flown by the XII TAC in close support of VI Corps bombed and strafed the town of BITSCHHOFFEN, starting fires in all sections of town, destroying miscellaneous vehicles and damaging two tanks.

17 February

1. Activity along the VI Corps front during February was featured by the completion of the relief of the 45th Division by the 42d Division which had assumed command of the sector on the left flank by 2400A. Continued aggressive patrolling all along the front resulted in only scattered contact against the passively defensive enemy. Heavy showers and poor visibility limited the number of observed missions fired by Corps artillery and prevented any air activity.

2. After taking over the sector of the 179th Inf on the left flank of the 45th Division zone during the night, the 222d Inf improved its defensive positions and placed mortar fire on a group of six enemy on Hill 301 (Q-805373) but observed no other hostile activity during the day. After dark, a small enemy patrol from the 11 SS Mtn Regt engaged an outpost in a brief grenade fight before being forced to withdraw, and later a patrol of the 222d Inf engaged an enemy squad at Q-747hill in a short fire fight. The rest of the 45th Division sector remained quiet throughout the period as the 232d Inf relieved the 157th Inf on the right

70/. WRJ, 16 Feb - Entries #11, 12, 14, 27, 40 and 66.

71/. WRJ, 16 Feb - Entry #61; WRJ, 17 Feb - Entry #13.

72/. WRJ, 16 Feb - Entry #15.

73/. WRJ, 16 Feb - Entries #11, 27 and 51; WRJ, 17 Feb - Entries #12 and 14.

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flank and assumed command of its new zone at 2259A. No hostile artillery fire fell in this sector till late afternoon when 38 rounds of [illegible] fire came into the [illegible] area and scattered artillery and mortar fire landed in ALTHORN and WILDENGRUTH. Upon completion of movement of all its organic units to the VI Corps area, the 42d Infantry Division took over command of its sector at 2400A 74/.

3. Changes of 103d Division dispositions during the period were negligible as patrols continued vigilant, aggressive probings of enemy positions throughout the period. After dark, hostile troops in a house at Q-929277 supported by 20 riflemen in the woods to the rear engaged a 409th Inf patrol with heavy small arms fire, but the enemy was generally inactive along the rest of the front. Light sporadic mortar fire and scattered light caliber artillery fire were received intermittently on forward positions 75/.

4. The 101st Airborne Division front remained the most quiet sector of the VI Corps, although the enemy showed himself alert to night patrolling and several minor small arms fire fights occurred in the early morning. One of the three patrols returned with two prisoners from the 104 GR which indicated the 47 VG Division was still deployed in this sector. A similar calm existed on the 36th Division sector where enemy forces maintained their passive defensive attitude and contact was limited to patrol clashes. After dark, a 143d Inf patrol exchanged small arms and machine gun fire with enemy infantry in the vicinity of R-0920. Patrols on the east flank observed 20 enemy at R-115199 and drew small arms and SP gun fire at scattered points across their front. Artillery fire was reported very light throughout the entire period 76/.

5. At 1600A Operations Instruction No. 40 was issued directing: (a) the 14th Armored Division to relieve 103d Division in zone by 200800A; (b) the 36th Division, upon relief by elements of I# French Corps on the right and on Corps order to relieve elements of the 101st Airborne Division and 117th Cav Rcn Sq in zone and be prepared on Corps order to relieve the remainder of the 101st Airborne Division; and (c) the 103d Division to be prepared to relieve 14th Armored Division in zone within 24 hours on Corps order 77/.

18 February

1. Except for the action of a strong combat patrol which infiltrated positions of the 101st A/B Division East of SCHÖNBERGHAUSEN late in the period, the enemy remained passively defensive throughout 18 February, as the four infantry divisions holding the VI Corps line continued their aggressive patrolling programs. Corps artillery was again limited by poor visibility and no observed missions were fired during the period. The enemy 380mm Rkt gun fired on SAVERNE again early in the period but ceased firing after four rounds, after a TOT by Corps artillery had been fired on its suspected location.

2. The 42d Division sector continued quiet as the 222d Inf on the left and 232d Inf on the right pushed aggressive patrols to their fronts, while the 242d remained in reserve. Enemy reaction during the period was limited to some flare activity during the early night hours of the period, light small arms fire on 232d Inf right flank positions and eight rounds of 120mm mortar fire at Q-761382.

74/. WRJ, 17 Feb - Entries #16, 26, 27, 43, 45, 61, 64 and 68.

75/. WRJ, 17 Feb - Entries #11 and 45; WRJ, 18 Feb - Entries #7 and 9.

76/. WRJ, 17 Feb - Entries #15, 45 and 55; WRJ, 18 Feb - Entry #11.

77/. Annex No. 7.

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A 222d Inf night patrol reported booby traps at Q-764390 but little or no active contact was made with enemy troops during the period. The 42d Cav Ron Troop moved to the division left flank to maintain contact between the 222d Inf and elements of the 100th Division (XV Corps), and was attached to the 222d Inf for operations 78/.

3. Enemy contact was similarly negligible in the 103d Division sector despite continued patrols maintained to the front. No activity was reported during the day but after dark some enemy vehicular activity was noted in the NIEFFERN, KINDWILLER, UHLWILLER areas. In the evening the enemy was particularly sensitive to patrol activity and heavy machine gun and mortar fire was received by a patrol from the 103d Ron Troop in the vicinity of NIEFFERN. Artillery fire was relatively light but increased over the previous period, the bulk falling in the NIEDERMODERN - UEBERBACH (Q-9227) area after dark 79/.

4. Little activity was reported in the 101st Airborne Division sector during the period except for battalion reliefs on the right half of the division front and an enemy combat patrol attack late in the period. Patrol activity continued unabated during the night hours of 17 - 18 February and one prisoner was taken from the 257 Pioneer Bn at R-034244. This identification together with that of two enemy from the 103 VGR taken nearby seemed to substantiate previous indications that this immediate area was a boundary between the 47 and 257 VG Divisions. Battalion reliefs were effected in the center of the division sector by the 327th Glider Inf at 2140A and similar sized reliefs on the right flank by the 506th Prcht Inf at 2250A. East of SCHWEIGHAUSEN about 2230A an enemy combat patrol contacted 327th Glider Inf positions, resulting in a fire fight, but the small groups which infiltrated into our lines were subsequently cleaned up and the situation restored. The mission of this patrol according to prisoners from II Bn Hq 103 VGR (47 VG Div) was to take prisoners to determine our intentions in that area 80/.

5. The entire 36th Division sector remained quiet with contacts limited almost exclusively to patrol engagements, of which six were reported after dark North and East of OBERHOFFEN where our patrols were engaged by single machine gun positions in this area. Glass mines were reported for the first time on the VI Corps front when a 36th Division patrol encountered them in the woods North of ROHRWILLER. An enemy ammunition dump was ignited by division artillery at R-081214 during mid-afternoon and was reported still burning by 1800A. Enemy artillery was scattered and light throughout the period 81/.

6. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 80 which was received late in the period, outlined the proposed regrouping of Seventh Army which would give the XV Corps control of the 42d Infantry Division and so much of the VI Corps sector as that unit was presently holding. The plan proposed a new left boundary for VI Corps, running generally SPARSBACH (Q-765310) - Q-792331 - Q-838358 (West of ROTHBACH) and to the Northeast 82/.

19 February

1. Activity on the VI Corps front was again limited to strong patrol actions. CC "B" 14th Armd Division, with the 19th and 68th Armd Inf Bns attached, relieved

78/. WDJ, 18 Feb - Entries #3, 10, 25, 27, 45 and 52.

79/. WDJ, 19 Feb - Entry #7.

80/. WDJ, 18 Feb - Entries #13 and 16; WDJ, 19 Feb - Entries #1 and 10.

81/. WDJ, 18 Feb - Entries #45 and 53; WDJ, 19 Feb - Entries #9 and 10.

82/. Annex No. 8.

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103d Division right flank elements of the 103d Division and assumed command of its new sector at 2330A. Corps artillery fired several observed missions on enemy personnel and prepared positions late in the afternoon and a harassing program on enemy road nets, OPs and battery locations throughout the period.

2. The 44th Division continued to consolidate positions and maintain an active patrol program to the front and no contact was established with enemy troops until after dark when two small enemy patrols half-heartedly attempted to penetrate forward lines and were quickly repulsed. Division patrols continued to probe out enemy positions in spite of heavy enemy flare activity and one patrol found Hill 301 (Q-806976) unoccupied. Light mortar and artillery fire was received after dark although artillery fire for the period was especially light, a noticeable decrease over the previous period 83/.

3. Activity along the 103d Division front was limited to continued patrolling to feel out enemy forward positions, and the relief of the 3d Bn 409th Inf by elements of CC "B" 14th Armd Division which was completed by 2330A after which the 3d Bn moved to an assembly area at BOURSCHEID. Shortly after noon, 25 enemy and two mortars were taken under artillery fire in the vicinity of Q-900869. After dark, 411th Inf patrols reported Q-914886 and Q-913880 without contact but an enemy machine gun at Q-914876 covering the MOSER River engaged one of our patrols. Enemy artillery during the day was lighter than it had been any time during the week and there was none reported during the night 84/.

4. No changes in unit dispositions were made in the 101st Airborne Division sector and activity was limited to patrolling North of the MOSER River after dark. No contact was reported although intermittent enemy small arms and machine gun fire fall on front line positions during the evening 85/.

5. The 36th Division sector witnessed no marked increase in activity as enemy units opposing division forces maintained their usual defensive attitude throughout the period. 141st Inf elements reoccupied former positions along the RHINE River up to the 143 Northing. Patrol contact was maintained with enemy forces all along the north flank, particularly in the vicinity of R-141200 and R-168166 where patrols were engaged by machine guns and riflemen. A small enemy group was observed digging in North of the RR Station in OBERHOFFEN during the afternoon while an enemy patrol approaching 143d Inf forward lines at R-088211 detonated a mine and turned back 86/.

6. CC "B" with the 19th and 68th Armd Inf Bns attached, moved forward and completed the relief of the 3d Bn 409th Inf, and the 14th Armored Division assumed command of its new sector at 2330A 87/.

7. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 81 of this date, which was received late in the day revised Seventh Army O.I. No. 80, and directed: (a) that the present boundary between VI Corps and XV Corps remain unchanged, and (b) that the 42d Inf Division remain attached to VI Corps 88/.

83/. WRJ, 19 Feb - Entries #10, 33 and 40.

84/. WRJ, 19 Feb - Entries #37 and 51; WRJ, 20 Feb - Entries #3 and 4.

85/. WRJ, 20 Feb - Entries #3 and 4.

86/. WRJ, 19 Feb - Entries #22 and 37; WRJ, 20 Feb - Entry #3.

87/. WRJ, 19 Feb - Entries #42 and 52.

88/. Annex No. 8.

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20 February

1. While the area just taken over by the 14th Armd Division drew considerable enemy attention, indicating that he was aware of the change in dispositions, there was little change in his overall attitude of passive defense. Contact throughout the entire Corps area during 20 February was limited to a few small encounters brought about by our continued heavy patrol program. Poor visibility limited observed missions by Corps artillery, but a heavy harassing program was fired on enemy lines of communication.

2. On the Corps left flank in the sector of the 42d Division, the enemy continued his heavy flare program to counter the activities of our patrols during the night and also employed searchlights to illuminate the front. Except for the slight increase of mortar fire on positions of the 232d Inf during the day, the area remained generally quiet and divisional patrols made only scattered contact 89/.

3. Late in the afternoon four tanks (one at Q-873323 and three at Q-877316) in the area facing the 103d Division front were taken under fire by artillery and all damaged, but otherwise this sector remained extremely quiet. In the right half of the Corps central sector, the 14th Armd Division continued to hold its narrow front with the 19th and 68th Armd Inf Bns who maintained an OPL North of the MODER River which was subjected to a slight increase of hostile artillery and mortar fire in the LA WALCK - UEBERACH area. After dark a 19th AIB patrol to BITSCHHOFFEN drew heavy machine gun fire and had to withdraw, while a 68th AIB raiding party was engaged by an estimated platoon of enemy at the RR Station (Q-939276) and forced to withdraw 90/.

4. To the East the 101st A/B Division sector remained unusually calm as patrols from all four regiments in line continued their aggressive probing actions into enemy positions across the MODER River without drawing any sharp reaction. However, a slight increase of hostile activity took place on the Corps right flank in the zone of the 36th Division. Four small groups of enemy were taken under artillery fire late in the afternoon and an hostile patrol was driven off by a 143d Inf outpost in the vicinity of Q-106194 at 2300A. Shortly before midnight, a 143d Inf patrol reached R-064239 without contact but withdrew across the river when an enemy 25-man patrol was observed approaching their positions from the East in an attempt to cut them off. Hostile artillery in this sector remained light 91/.

5. At 1800A Operations Instruction No. 41 was issued, directing: (a) the 36th Division to relieve the 101st A/B Division in sector commencing on 23 February, relief to be completed by 260600A, (b) the 101st A/B Division, with 307th TD Bn and 567th AAA AW Bn attached, to move to Army areas on completion of relief, detached from VI Corps, (c) the attachment on 22 February of the 756th Tk Bn to the 103d Division in place of the 781st Tk Bn which was directed to move to XV Corps area, (d) the movement to XXI Corps area on 22 February of Hq & Hq Btry 413th FA Gp and the 977th FA Bn and their detachment from VI Corps, (e) the movement to XXI Corps area on 25 February of Hq & Hq Btry 33d FA Brig and its detachment from VI Corps 92/.

21 February

1. The relief of 36th Division elements East of BISCHWILLER by the 3 DIA

89/. WRJ, 20 Feb - Entries #4, 18, 30, 37 and 45.

90/. WRJ, 20 Feb - Entry #37; WRJ, 21 Feb - Entry #2.

91/. WRJ, 20 Feb - Entries #18, 30 and 37.

92/. Annex No. 7.

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of XI French Corps in accordance with the boundary change directed by Seventh Army Operation Instruction No. 78 was the only significant change in VI Corps dispositions during another quiet period on 21 February. Elsewhere along the Corps front, the situation remained static as all divisions continued their strong patrolling programs against the enemy who remained defensive, but alert to probing actions. Poor visibility limited Corps artillery to a few observed missions and prevented any close air support by XII TAC, although several hostile planes appeared over the area and two were believed shot down on the east flank.

2. Although hostile activity along the 42d Division front was generally limited to light harassing small arms and mortar fire, the enemy did show more than his usual aggressiveness by launching two small patrol raids in the afternoon. Between 1400A and 1500A, a patrol of the 222d Inf killed all seven members of a hostile raiding party at Q-766394, and at 1700A an outpost of the 232d Inf killed two men of an enemy patrol on that front. Divisional artillery silenced several hostile machine gun and mortar positions during the day, but after dark no contact was made, although both regiments continued their patrolling programs and the enemy reacted with more than the usual flare activity 93/.

3. Throughout the period, enemy activity on the front of the 103d Division was limited to movements of small groups which were taken under artillery fire and quickly dispersed at Q-8631, Q-8731, Q-9031 and Q-9329. After dark the 410th Inf moved up onto the line on the right flank and by 2210A had completed relief of the 409th Inf which assembled in the BOUXWILLER area in Division Reserve 94/.

4. While scattered artillery, SP gun and mortar fire fell intermittently on forward positions of the 14th Armd Division throughout the day, hostile infantry displayed no aggressiveness on this front which was held by CC "B", with the 19th and 68th Armd Inf Bns. During the afternoon, a group of 30 enemy observed at Q-926283 was taken under artillery fire with good results, but the enemy remained generally inactive during daylight hours, and night patrols made no contact 95/.

5. Shortly after midnight an outpost of the 502d Prcht Inf picked up two deserters from the 104 VG Regt (47 VG Div) at Q-945272 who admitted that patrols of their units crossed the river every other night in rubber boats near this point on the left flank of the 101st A/B Division. However, no other close contact was developed with the enemy forces throughout the period, as all four regiments continued their strong patrolling. Light mortar fire and a few scattered rounds of light artillery fire was the extent of hostile activity 96/.

6. The front of the 36th Division on the Corps east flank continued to draw the bulk of the hostile light artillery fire, particularly positions of the 143d Inf in OBERHOFFEN. Enemy infantry also seemed somewhat more alert to our constant probing activities in this area as he engaged several divisional patrols with machine gun and small arms fire. Hostile air activity also was concentrated on this sector where the only three planes observed over the Corps area during the day flew along the west bank of the RHINE. One Me-109 and one FW-190 were shot down and the second Me-109 was believed hit and damaged. Late in the afternoon

93/. WRJ, 21 Feb - Entries #4, 11, 19, 29, 32 and 44.

94/. WRJ, 21 Feb - Entries #11, 21 and 41

95/. WRJ, 21 Feb - Entries #29, 32 and 41.

96/. WRJ, 21 Feb - Entries #10 and 11.

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noon elements of the 3 DIA began movement into the right flank and by 2200A relief of the 141st Inf had been completed and the 36th Division sector limited to the fronts of the 117th Cav Ron Sq and the 143d Inf as the westward shift of the VI Corps right boundary began, in accordance with Seventh Army O.I. No. 78 97/.

22 February

1. The VI Corps front remained generally quiet throughout 22 February as elements of the 3 DIA (II French Corps) completed relief of 36th Division troops in the OBERHOFFEN - BISCHWILLER area to place the new Seventh Army - First French Army boundary into effect at 2300A. As patrols of all the Corps divisions on line continued their aggressive probing of enemy positions, Corps artillery concentrated its fires on known hostile battery locations, OPs and lines of communication. At 0300A, SAVERNE was the target for three more rounds of fire from the enemy 380mm RR gun which was still unlocated exactly though believed to be on the RR line South of WISSEMBOURG. The single hostile plane appearing over the Corps area was an Me-262 (jet-propelled) on reconnaissance.

2. West of REIPERTSWILLER the enemy remained particularly alert to patrols of the 42d Division, reacting quickly with small arms and machine gun fire to our continued probing tactics. However, hostile activity was negligible along the rest of that front throughout the period except for scattered light artillery and mortar fire. Two enemy deserters picked up by the 222d Inf at Q-775383 identified the 11 SS Mtn Regt, indicating the 6 SS Mtn Division remained on this front. Division artillery silenced enemy machine gun and mortar positions at Q-798375 and Q-843365 during the day 98/.

3. While activity along the front of the 103d Division was negligible, increased contact was reported on the narrow sector of 14th Armd Division which was held by the 19th and 61th Armd Inf Bns. Though night patrols of both these units encountered no enemy, there was increased hostile activity during the day. Light mortar and sniper fire were received in UEBERACH and divisional artillery knocked out an enemy SP gun at Q-911312 and dispersed a small enemy group proceeding towards our lines at Q-927323 99/.

4. Moderate mortar and SP gun fire, as well as an estimated thirty rounds of hostile 105mm fire, fell on positions of the 101st A/B Division, but the extent of enemy infantry activity was a five-man patrol which was dispersed by artillery fire in the vicinity of Q-942273. Division patrols during the night made little contact, but found many trees felled along the road net in the western end of HAGUENAU Forest 100/.

5. OBERHOFFEN remained the favorite target of hostile artillery which was the principal enemy activity in the sector of the 36th Division. Approximately 25 rounds of light artillery fire fell in the town during late afternoon and after dark, the enemy reacted with another two dozen rounds of light and heavy caliber fire on the town in response to fire on his own positions North of OBERHOFFEN. Late in the period, the sector of the 36th Division was limited to the narrow front held by the attached 117th Cav Ron Sq, after the 4 RTT of the 3 DIA completed relief of the 143d Inf in OBERHOFFEN and assumed responsibility for the sector at

97/. WRJ, 21 Feb - Entries #11, 21, 32 and 41.

98/. WRJ, 22 Feb - Entries #21, 33, 39, 43 and 51; WRJ, 23 Feb - Entries #2 and 5.

99/. WRJ, 22 Feb - Entries #9 and 43; WRJ, 23 Feb - Entry #4.

100/. WRJ, 23 Feb - Entries #3 and 10.

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2300A 101/.

6. Late in the period, Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 82 was received, confirming earlier verbal orders which had directed VI Corps to relieve and move the 101st Airborne Division to an assembly area between HARSKIRCHEN and SAVERNE by 260600A, at which time the division was to be relieved of attachment to VI Corps and revert to Army control 102/.

23 February

1. The continued heavy patrolling program on the VI Corps front brought an increased reaction from the enemy during 23 February, particularly on the fronts of the 42d Infantry and 14th Armd Divisions. However, the situation remained quiet in other sectors, as the 36th Division commenced relief of the 101st A/B Division in accordance with O.I. No. 41 without incident. The few prisoners taken during the period indicated that the 6 SS Mtn and 257 VG Divisions remained on the flanks of the VI Corps and that remnants of the 245 Inf Division appeared to be located in the center - between the previously identified 36 and 47 VG Divisions, perhaps as replacements for the badly decimated 36th. Corps artillery continued its heavy harassing program on hostile lines of communication during the night and fired several successful observed missions on tanks, infantry, personnel and guns during the day.

2. Considerably more contact was made with the enemy on the front of the 42d Division, particularly in the zone of the 222d Inf on the left flank, where a strong combat patrol was stopped by heavy small arms and machine gun fire at Q-764402 and Q-763408 before dawn and at 0730A surprised and inflicted casualties on an enemy group caught in a mess line. After a day of quiet which was broken only by sporadic small arms, automatic weapons and light mortar fire, activity increased in the evening. An estimated company of enemy infantry was observed digging in at Q-758407 by a 222d Inf patrol and promptly taken under fire by two rounds of TOT by division artillery at 1930A. Later in the evening, patrols of the 232d Inf contacted an estimated 50 enemy digging in at Q-803377 and numerous other unmanned but newly constructed positions. The only prisoner taken during the day was a deserter from the 12 SS Mtn Regt 103/.

3. While the front of the 103d Division remained quiet except for the movement of enemy tracked vehicles heard in the vicinity of KINDWILLER at 1900A and numerous small hostile groups observed by air OPs at scattered points across the front late in the afternoon, the 14th Armd Division had considerable patrol contact on its narrow front. Daylight activity was limited to a 48-round concentration of hostile medium artillery fire on UEBERACH at 1630A and the capture of three prisoners of the 935 GR (245 Inf Div) by a patrol of the 19th AIB, also late in the afternoon. However, after dark a 68th AIB patrol was taken under heavy fire at Q-933282 by an enemy group armed with eight to ten machine guns in positions along the edge of the woods East of BITSCHHOFFEN, and a raiding party to the RR Station at Q-937276 also encountered heavy resistance of machine gun and small arms fire 104/.

4. In the sector of the 101st A/B Division, the fronts of the 502d and 501st Prcht Infs and the 327th Glider Inf remained extremely quiet as the 506th Inf was relieved by the 143d Inf in the HAGUENAU area in accordance with O. I. No. 41.

101/. WRJ, 22 Feb - Entries #37, 43, 53 and 56.

102/. Annex No. 8.

103/. WRJ, 23 Feb - Entries #5, 10, 22, 35 and 51; WRJ, 24 Feb - Entries #6 and 8.

104/. WRJ, 23 Feb - Entries #7 and 40; WRJ, 24 Feb - Entries #6 and 8.

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Divisional patrols made no contact in their probings across the MODER, but reported extensive defensive preparations by the enemy, trees being felled in the vicinity of Q-988258 - Q-994277 - Q-977300 - Q-985285 where lanes 200 feet wide had been cleared. After completion of relief of the 300th Front Inf troops on line by elements of the 143d Inf, the 36th Division Commander assumed control of the new sector - West to R-027243 - at 2100A. A short while later, the 143d Inf ambushed a seven-man enemy patrol in HAGUENAU, killing one and taking five prisoners from the 457 VGR (257 VG Div). The remainder of the division front to the East, held by the 117th Cav, remained quiet throughout the period 105/.

5. The one mission of 12 sorties flown by XIX TAC in close support of VI Corps bombed and strafed the town of MOUTERHOUSE (Q-7942), destroying a large factory in the center of the town and fifteen other buildings. Hostile air activity was limited to flights by four Me-262s, apparently on photo reconnaissance missions.

24 February

1. The general situation and enemy attitude remained unchanged on the VI Corps front during 24 February. While interrogation of prisoners from the 6 SS Mtn, 36 VG and 257 VG Divisions indicated that all three were receiving some replacements to take care of current attrition, but hardly enough to allow them to recover from their heavy losses in January and make them capable of strong offensive action. The five VI Corps divisions continued their strong programs along the quiet front and the 36th Infantry Division continued relief of the 101st Airborne Division, extending its left boundary to R-006247, late in the period.

2. Elements of the German 6 SS Mtn Division facing the Corps left flank continued to remain alert to the constant probing actions of 42d Division patrols, reacting on contact with automatic weapons and small arms fire, but showed no inclination towards aggressive action on their own part. Early in the morning a strong patrol of the 222d Inf picked up six prisoners from the 11 SS Mtn Regt at Q-767394 after a sharp fire fight in which an additional thirteen of the enemy were killed, and late in the afternoon another two men from the same unit were captured in this vicinity late in the afternoon. The right half of the 42d Division front remained the more quiet - as 232d Inf patrols ranged across the ROTHBACH HAU into hostile territory, making only minor contact 106/.

3. After an uneventful night and morning, hostile activity on the front of the 103d Division increased slightly in the late afternoon when several five-man groups of enemy were observed between ENGWILLER (Q-9131) and GUMBRECHTSHOFFEN (Q-9233) and considerable vehicular activity was heard in the same area shortly after dark. However, contact was light throughout most of the period as the enemy remained quiet except for directing scattered artillery and mortar fire on forward elements of the 411th and 409th Infs. The only prisoner of the day was taken early in the morning in the ROTHBACH area and identified the Repl Regt of the 36 VG Division 107/.

4. Patrols of both the 19th and 68th Armd Inf Bns drew sharp reactions as they probed hostile positions facing the front of CC "B" 14th Armd Division.

105/. WRJ, 23 Feb - Entries #20, 35, 40 and 54; WRJ, 24 Feb - Entry #8.

106/. WRJ, 24 Feb - Entries #17, 26 and 48; WRJ, 25 Feb - Entries #5 and 12.

107/. WRJ, 24 Feb - Entries #36 and 42; WRJ, 25 Feb - Entry #12.

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Early in the morning, a 19th AIB combat patrol encountered heavy automatic weapons fire from enemy positions in the woods east of UEBERACH and battalion frontline positions were harassed throughout the day by sporadic mortar fire which was culminated in a 20-round concentration of 120mm mortar fire in IA WALCK at 1930A. After dark, the 68th AIB patrols operating on the division right flank met continued strong resistance from the enemy mortar crews near the RR station at Q-937276 and were forced to withdraw after penetrating as far as Q-933278 108/.

5. Although patrols of the 101st A/B and 36th Infantry Divisions continued to push patrols across the MODER River no close contact was made on this right flank of the VI Corps sector where elements of the 47 VG and 257 VG Divisions appeared content to remain passively defensive, except for a few scattered rounds of light artillery fire and occasional bursts of machine gun fire from the area North of HAGUENAU and SCHWEIGHAUSEN. Relief of the airborne division continued and by 2220A the 143d Inf had taken over frontline positions of the 327th Glider Inf and the 36th Division Commander had assumed control of the sector as far west as R-006247 109/.

25 February

1. The VI Corps front remained quiet during 25 February with our patrols finding the enemy alert and encountering improvements in his defenses. The relief of the 101st Airborne Division by the 36th Division was completed and command of the sector was assumed by the latter at 2130A. Normal harassing fires were carried out during the night by the Corps artillery against enemy rear areas and installations while enemy installations located in houses and buildings were destroyed during the day by observed missions. No hostile aircraft appeared over the Corps area.

2. On the Corps left flank the 42d Division sector remained very quiet. Vigorous patrolling found the enemy to be maintaining an alert defense which was supplemented after dark by flare activity. One morning patrol of the 222d Inf was stopped at Q-778335 by strong enemy small arms fire. Negligible amounts of small arms, machine gun and mortar fire were exchanged during the period as local reliefs were completed without incident 110/.

3. The 103d Division sector remained generally quiet although an increase in enemy activity and movement was noted during the early morning hours before daylight. No change in unit dispositions was made by the 411th and 410th RCTs with scattered artillery, SP gun and mortar fire harassing forward elements along the division front. A cub Air OP adjusted division artillery fire on an enemy group in MUHLHAUSEN and two AA gun positions at Q-833305 with good effect. During the morning, enemy frontline machine guns engaged and shot down a cub Air OP flying over ZUTZENDORF. All enemy armored activity took place in the area between the VOSGES Mountains and the HAGUENAU Forest opposite the 103d Division sector where three tanks or SP guns were observed in the vicinity of Q-855317 and taken under artillery fire 111/.

4. The 14th Armored Division sector held by CC "B" remained quiet with ex-

108/. WRJ, 24 Feb - Entries #26 and 42; WRJ, 25 Feb - Entry #12.

109/. WRJ, 24 Feb - Entries #6, 25, 26 and 49; WRJ, 25 Feb - Entries #3, 6 and 12.

110/. WRJ, 25 Feb - Entries #12 and 21.

111/. WRJ, 25 Feb - Entries #12 and 37.

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tensive and vigorous patrolling being executed throughout the period. Small enemy movements and activity were observed and one patrol to the area just South of BITSCHHOFFEN drew sniper fire after detecting a minefield 300 yards long and 10 yards wide. Tank elements of the 82d Armd Recn Battalion were relieved from attachment to the 101st Airborne Division and reverted to control of parent unit at 2130A. At 0350A, one 380mm artillery shell made a direct hit on a building being used as a barracks by the 136th Ord Bn, killing 10 and wounding 12 soldiers 112/.

5. On the Corps right flank, the 501st Prcht Inf and 502d Prcht Inf were relieved by the 142d Inf by 2130A and the 101st Airborne Division continued movement to assembly areas South of SAVERNE and SARREBOURG, as the 36th Division Commander assumed control of the MODER River Line as far West as Q-939271. Enemy activity was confined to light and scattered artillery fire on forward elements along the division front 113/.

26 February

1. Although the VI Corps sector remained generally quiet on 26 February, the enemy made a minor show of aggressiveness by launching a small limited objective attack on the west flank shortly after dawn but the attack was repulsed after a short fire fight. It was believed this assault was launched to conceal the fact that the 6th SS Mtn Division was extending its lines to nearly double their former length as a result of pressure in the XX and XV Corps zones. The 101st Airborne Division reverted to 7th Army control at 1800A. Poor visibility limited Corps artillery fire to unobserved counterbattery and harassing missions but a factory at Q-867303 was destroyed and direct hits were observed on two gun positions.

2. Along the 42d Division front an increase in activity occurred over the previous period with the principal action taking place on the left flank in the 222d Inf sector. Just before daybreak, an approximate 30-man enemy group attacked a house in the vicinity of Q-787330 held by 222d Inf troops but was driven off by artillery, mortar and small arms fire. At 0815A, a 222d Inf combat patrol engaged a small enemy group in a fire fight at Q-772387 and killed an estimated 10 Germans without suffering any casualties. Late in the afternoon, a 30-man raid supported by fire from BARs, machine guns, mortars, artillery and tanks was launched on prepared enemy positions at Q-759409 - Q-761405, resulting in a brisk fire fight. On the right, the 232d Inf sector remained generally quiet although small enemy groups were taken under fire throughout the day. Vigorous patrolling was conducted by both regiments with the enemy continuing alert and sensitive to all prodding 114/.

3. Quiet prevailed along the 103d Division front where activity was limited to light patrol contact. On the left, a 5-man enemy patrol attempting to contact our lines at Q-855324 was dispersed by the 411th Inf. On the right, a 410th Inf night patrol to [illegible] met heavy small arms and mortar fire from an alert enemy in the town and also ran into a controlled Schu minefield which caused approximately 10 casualties, four being killed and three missing. Active SP guns at Q-871337 and Q-909315 were taken under fire by the division artillery which succeeded in neutralizing one of the guns 115/.

112/. 6AJ, 25 Feb - Entries #12, 14, 23 and 39.

113/. 6AJ, 25 Feb - Entries #12 and 23.

114/. 6AJ, 26 Feb - Entries #4, 17, 19, 26, 30 and 41.

115/. 6AJ, 27 Feb - Entries #9 and 25.

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4. CC "B" 14th Armored Division continued to hold its frontline positions while numerous patrols maintained contact with the enemy North of the MODER River. Although the sector remained quiet, patrols found the enemy very sensitive and engaged in several minor clashes. Scattered mortar and artillery fire harassed forward elements intermittently during the period. An enemy 88mm gun in the vicinity of Q-911323 was destroyed by a direct hit with artillery fire at 1600A 116/.

5. Hostile activity on the new 36th Division front was limited to intermittent light artillery fire on forward elements and occasional machine gun fire on positions of the 143d Inf in HAGUENAU. In a brisk period of activity during the afternoon, light and medium caliber guns shelled HAGUENAU and KALTENHOUSE with 10-15 round missions while 36th Division artillery ignited a small arms and mortar ammunition dump at R-003251. On the left, troops of the 142d Inf ambushed and captured all three members of an enemy patrol from the 115 VGR which had attempted to penetrate positions at Q-965264. On the right, local reliefs in the 117th Cav Ron Sq sector were completed without incident 117/.

6. The 101st Airborne Division continued to move to assembly areas South of SAVERNE and SARREBOURG and at 1300A, the Division with the 807th TD Bn and 567th AAA AW Bn attached was relieved of attachment to VI Corps and reverted to Seventh Army control.

27 February

1. The VI Corps front continued quiet on 27 February with both friendly and enemy activity being at a minimum. Battalion reliefs were conducted while front lines remained unchanged and patrolling in the left of the Corps sector was intensified. The principal occurrence of the period was the relief of the 6 SS Mtn Division by elements of the 16 VG Division opposite the 42d Division sector on the Corps left flank, and the corresponding shift of the former division Northwest to the HITCHE area. Restricted observation continued to limit Corps artillery fires to a minimum but harassing fire was directed on known enemy battery locations during the night.

2. Front lines of the 42d Division remained unchanged but aggressive patrolling to the front was intensified during the day in order to maintain contact with the enemy who was effecting reliefs and thinning out lines. At 0700A a patrol of the 222d Inf engaged the enemy in a fire fight at Q-766400, killing an estimated five Germans and suffering four casualties, but shortly after daybreak contact was lost with the enemy along the entire division front and the 25 patrols dispatched by the 222d and 232d Infs during the course of the day made penetrations up to 1000 yards and found unoccupied positions containing abandoned equipment. A considerable increase in artillery fire on forward elements, especially in the REIPERTSWILLER and WILDENGUTH area, indicated the enemy was either withdrawing or effecting a relief, and the latter belief was confirmed late in the afternoon when patrols commenced to make scattered contact, and captured a prisoner from the 221 VGR 16 VG Division. Interrogation disclosed that the 6 SS Mtn Division was being relieved by elements of the 16 VG Division and moving Northwest to the HITCHE area in the XV Corps zone 118/.

3. Troop dispositions of the 103d Division remained unchanged with patrols finding the enemy alert but generally quiet. Scattered mortar and artillery fire

116/. WRJ, 26 Feb - Entries #4, 5, 19 and 30

117/. WRJ, 26 Feb - Entries #4, 5, 19 and 30

118/. WRJ, 27 Feb - Entries #9, 21, 26, 41, 49, 51 and 57.

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was received by forward elements of the 411th and 410th RCTs intermittently during the period 119/.

4. In the 14th Armored Division sector, quiet prevailed with frontline activity consisting of vigorous patrolling by the 19th and 68th Armd Inf Bns and elements of the 94th Cav Recn Sqn in enemy held territory. One patrol to the area South of HITSCHHOFFEN drew direct 75mm fire while after dark the points Q-935876 and Q-927888 were reached without contact. Artillery fire was placed on small enemy groups at Q-922288 and Q-910320 with good effect and an evening propaganda broadcast netted one deserter from the 104 GR. At the end of the period the 68d AIB was relieving the 68th AIB in the forward sector of CC "B" 120/.

5. The 36th Division sector was generally quiet except for harassing artillery fire on the southwestern portion of HAGUENAU. In the 142d Inf zone on the division left flank, 76 rounds of artillery fire fell in the vicinity of Q-9526, while 143d Inf troops in HAGUENAU received intermittent small arms fire from enemy positions North of the river 121/.

6. At 1300A, Operations Instruction No. 42 was issued, directing: (a) the 36th Division to relieve the 117th Cav Recn Sq in sector prior to 020600A March, the unit to revert to Corps control upon arrival in an assembly area at MARMOUTIER (Q-7410) and (b) the 103d Division to be prepared to counterattack with one RCT in the 42d or 36th Division sectors under command of respective division commanders on Corps order 122/.

28 February

1. The general quiet along the VI Corps front continued as February came to a close. Raiding parties and combat patrols maintained contact with the enemy, particularly in the left part of the Corps sector where the enemy remained inactive but especially alert. Corps artillery missions were relatively few during the period except for a harassing program fired during the night against enemy batteries and lines of communications and occasional observed daylight missions against personnel, guns and defensive positions.

2. In the 42d Division sector, approximately 24 patrols from the 222d and 232d Infs, including two from the 242d Inf, ranged forward to maintain contact with the enemy. On the left, 222d Inf patrols made contact generally 1000 yards to the front while on the right penetrations up to 2000 yards were reported by 232d Inf patrols, one of which engaged a small enemy force in a fire fight at Q-808380 and killed approximately nine Germans and wounded six while sustaining only one casualty. The enemy was encountered generally along the high ground North of the ROTHBACH River and found to be very alert. In the evening, artillery was employed to fire surrender pamphlets into enemy lines after which a PWB broadcast took place, resulting in the subsequent capture of approximately ten deserters 123/.

3. No change in dispositions was made by the 103d Division as the enemy remained inactive but alert to patrols of the 411th and 410th Infs. On the left, 411th Inf patrols drew small arms and automatic weapons fire, but on the right a patrol of the 410th Inf made no contact. At 1600A, the 411th Inf put on a five-minute demonstration in the BISCHHOLTZ - MUHLHAUSEN area but drew no enemy reaction. Two deserters were taken by each regiment during the period 124/.

119/. WRJ, 27 Feb - Entry #51.

120/. WRJ, 27 Feb - Entries #4, 34 and 69.

121/. WRJ, 27 Feb - Entries #9 and 51.

122/. Annex No. 7.

123/. WRJ, 28 Feb - Entries #14, 24 and 53.

124/. WRJ, 28 Feb - Entries #10 and 13.

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4. In the 14th Armored Division sector, elements of CC "B" made no changes in front line dispositions after the 68th AIB was relieved in position by the 62d AIB at 0200A. Vigorous patrolling and raiding parties found the enemy alert but remaining generally inactive over the division front. Enemy activity and movement were observed, while one afternoon patrol to [redacted] was heavily engaged by small arms and machine gun fire from a nearby road block and supporting positions 125/.

5. On the Corps right flank in the 36th Division zone, the enemy remained passive and confined his activity mainly to harassing forward elements of the 142d and 143d Infs from NEUBOURG to HAGUENAU with light artillery fire. On the east flank, three enemy machine gun positions across the river from KALTENHOUSE were taken under artillery fire 126/.

6. Close air support consisted of one mission of eight sorties which fired 24 rockets on a strafing run against enemy troops along a road two miles Northwest of ZINSWILLER. No hostile aircraft appeared over the VI Corps area.

CONCLUSION

Despite the relative inactivity along the VI Corps front during February 1280 prisoners of war were captured to boost the Corps total since arrival in France on 15 August 1944 to 63,255. However the majority of these captured enemy were taken in the first two weeks during the 36th Division offensive to clean out OBERHOFFEN, ROHRWILLER, DRUSENHEIM and that sector west of the RHINE - 311 coming from the 10 SS Panzer Division and 423 from the 257 VG Division which had relieved the battered Panzer unit before the end of the first week. Another approximate 100 prisoners were captured as a result of the heavy patrolling program put on along the entire front during the month. Following his costly attempts to smash the VI Corps front during January with an offensive involving 12 divisions, the enemy had withdrawn his "elite" troops such as the 7 Paratroop and 10 SS Panzer Divisions during early February, although the crack (but sadly battered) 6 SS Mtn Division remained on the Corps left flank till its northwestward shift to the XV Corps front during the closing days of the month. At the end of February the enemy order of battle facing VI Corps was: elements of the 16, 36, 47 and 257 VG Divisions, whose combat effectives were estimated to total only 5000.

125/. WNJ, 28 Feb - Entry #28.

126/. WNJ, 28 Feb - Entry #46.

EDWARD H. BROOKS,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

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ANNEXES TO VI CORPS HISTORY - FEBRUARY 1945

#1 - Casualty Report of VI Corps Troops
#2A- Roster of Officers, Hq VI Corps
2B- Changes in Officer Personnel, Hq VI Corps
#3 - Report of Strength, Battle Casualties, Decorations and Awards, Hq & Hq Co and MP Plat, VI Corps - February 1945
#4 - Photographs (with orig only)
#5 - Combat Troop List
#6 - Changes in Troop Attachments and Detachments - February 1945
#7 - VI Corps Operations Instructions Nos. 36 thru 42, inclusive - February 1945 (with orig only)
#8 - 7th Army Operations Instructions Nos. 74, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81 and 82 - February 1945 (with orig only)
#9 - Map of VI Corps Route of Advance - February 1945
#10 - Photographs of G-2 and G-3 Situation Maps - February 1945 (with orig only)

UNDER SEPARATE COVER: (1 copy only)

#11 - G-1 Journal - Feb 1945
#12 - G-2 Journals (Including G-2 Reports) - Feb 1945
#13 - War Room Journals - Feb 1945
#14 - VI Corps G-3 Reports - Feb 1945
#15 - G-4 Journal with Supporting Papers - Feb 1945
#16 - AG Journal - Feb 1945
#17 - QM Journal - Feb 1945
#18 - Ord Journal - Feb 1945
#19 - IG Journal - Feb 1945
#20 - SJA Journal - Feb 1945
#21 - Fin Journal - Feb 1945
#22 - SSO Journal - Feb 1945
#23 - Chap Journal - Feb 1945
#24 - CWS - Ln Journal - Feb 1945
#25 - Surgeon Journal - Feb 1945
#26 - Signal Journal - Feb 1945
#27 - Engineer Journal - Feb 1945
#28 - PM Journal - Feb 1945
#29 - G-3 Reports, S-3 Reports, Field Orders, O.I.s, etc. of VI Corps Troops and Other Headquarters.

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CASUALTY REPORT OF VI CORPS TROOPS - FEBRUARY 1945

Date for pd ending 2359	Killed	Captured, Missing and Interned	Wounded	Non-Battle Casualties	Reinforcements and RTUs	Enemy PWs Captured
1 Feb	9	41	86	209	337	78
2 "	16	32	104	223	251	116
3 "	16	122	130	190	209	311
4 "	21	19	152	191	308	42
5 "	4	8	28	206	288	36
6 "	4	0	28	204	354	21
7 "	1	1	28	159	279	42
8 "	4	8	31	178	368	13
9 "	4	5	25	198	279	39
10 "	7	6	122	197	1350	95
11 "	15	79	52	150	469	196
12 "	8	9	39	181	410	158
13 "	1	4	22	164	430	40
14 "	2	9	28	149	228	10
15 "	1	0	23	140	524	8
16 "	3	0	11	133	561	11
17 "	2	3	14	155	394	1
18 "	5	1	28	138	409	4
19 "	2	7	26	110	404	7
20 "	6	2	22	124	313	7
21 "	4	0	19	123	1385	6
22 "	1	1	17	118	186	7
23 "	4	2	11	108	219	10
24 "	5	5	18	131	81	19
25 "	12	0	22	119	93	9
26 "	3	9	23	89	180	3
27 "	2	7	37	96	169	7
28 "	8	3	19	109	198	10
TOTALS	170	383	1165	4292	10676	1306

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ANNEX No. 1

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CASUALTY REPORT OF VI CORPS TROOPS - FEBRUARY 1945

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Date for pd ending 2359	Killed	Captured, Missing and Interned	Wounded	Non-Battle Casualties	Reinforcements and RTUs	Enemy PWs Captured
1 Feb	9	41	86	209	337	78
2 "	14	38	104	223	251	116
3 "	15	122	130	190	209	311
4 "	21	19	152	191	308	42
5 "	4	8	88	206	288	36
6 "	4	0	28	204	354	21
7 "	1	1	26	159	279	42
8 "	4	6	31	178	368	13
9 "	4	5	25	198	279	39
10 "	7	6	122	197	1350	95
11 "	15	79	52	150	469	196
12 "	8	9	39	181	410	158
13 "	1	4	22	164	430	40
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16 "	3	0	11	133	561	11
17 "	2	3	14	155	394	1
18 "	5	1	26	138	409	4
19 "	2	7	26	110	404	7
20 "	6	2	22	124	313	7
21 "	4	0	19	123	1385	6
22 "	1	1	17	118	186	7
23 "	4	2	11	108	219	10
24 "	5	5	18	131	81	19
25 "	12	0	22	119	93	9
26 "	3	9	23	89	180	3
27 "	2	7	37	96	169	7
28 "	8	3	19	109	198	10
TOTALS	170	383	1165	4292	10676	1306

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ANNEX No. 1

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 446, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 9)

10 February 1945

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

J. WILLIAM ARNOLD, Captain, French Army, French Liaison Section, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in action from 15 August to 19 September 1944 in France.

By command of Major General BROOKS:

CHARLES D. PALMER,
Colonel, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

MICHAEL L. CONNORS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 446, U. S. Army

9 February 1945.

SECTION I — ASSIGNED OFFICERS AND WARRANT OFFICERS

COMMANDING GENERAL

Major General Edward H. Brooks, 06657, U. S. A.
Capt Walter T. Wilson, 01010197, Inf (ADC)
Capt William W. Hersey, 01018799, Inf (ADC)

CHIEF OF STAFF

Col Charles D. Palmer, 015519, GSC

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

Lt Col Paul A. Chalmers, 018239, GSC

G-1 SECTION

Lt Col John W. Wibel, 0339093, GSC
Maj Robert G. Perriello, 0389394, GSC

G-2 SECTION

Col Joseph L. Langevin, 012640, GSC
Lt Col Don W. Dixon, 0343066, GSC
Maj Dexter S. French, 0277582, Cav
Capt Edward L. Dobbins, 0452060, Inf
Capt Joseph Haines III, 01234699, Inf

G-3 SECTION

Col Albert O. Connor, 020699, GSC
Lt Col Michael S. Davison, 022051, GSC
Maj John L. Cooper, 0351994, Cav
Maj William R. Rose, 0352042, CAC
Maj John Schadler Jr, 0383957, QMC
Maj Edward M. Murray, 0452479, Inf (I & E O)
Capt Rieder W. Schell, 0415566, Inf (Ln O)
Capt Leo M. Armstrong, 0405177, Inf
Capt Daniel T. Fogarty, 01822550, FA (Ln O)
Capt Kenneth B. Floto, 01305223, Inf
Capt Albert R. Tryon, 01100363, CE

G-4 SECTION

Lt Col Burton E. Miles, 0347690, GSC
Maj Robert E. Clark, 0910354, GSC
Maj Ralph L. Harper, 0303227, Inf
Capt William H. Ferguson, 01165013, FA
Capt Orris R. Evers, 02046557, CMS

ANNEX No. 2A

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Col Michael L. Connors, 0302332, AGD
Maj Harry S. Alcorn, 01000079, AGD
Capt Courtney L. Vallentine, 01000884, AGD
1st Lt William F. Rickett, 02055429, AGD
1st Lt Robert P. Head, 01013165, Cav
WOJG George T. Smith Jr, W-2108260

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Lt Col Jordan E. Brown, 0402819, Ch Corps
CWO Francis M. Hugavin, W-2109915

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Capt Floyd B. Hitman Jr, 025330, CWS

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Capt Frederick W. Dietz, 01280033, FD

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Lt Col James H. Pennycuick, 0307472, IGD
Capt William L. Mosher, 0409568, IGD

JUDGE ADVOCATE SECTION

Col Robert L. Lancefield, 018037, JAGD
Maj Jack H. Cotton, 0293310, JAGD

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Lt Col Walker Stamps, 0357347, MC
Capt Siegfried G. Kirkopf, 0454084, MAC
Capt James L. Rounds, 0490026, MAC
WOJG Donald L. Sutliff, W-2109239

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Col Walter G. Jennings, 0174217, Ord Dept
Maj John P. Merrill, 0181405, Ord Dept
Maj Stanley M. Smolensky, 025333, Ord Dept
Capt Benjamin F. Swank Jr, 0403163, Ord Dept
Capt Henry J. Egal, 01549932, Ord Dept
CWO Edward C. Kelly, W-2111233

PROVOST MARSHAL

Capt Mario T. Villanti, 0427369, CMP

QUARTERMASTER SECTION

Col Lawrence L. Skinner, 015325, QMC
Lt Col James G. Hattox, 0276850, QMC
Maj John A. Bradish, 0284157, QMC

SIGNAL SECTION

Lt Col Carmen L. Clay, 0367907, Sig C
Maj Wilbur D. Vincent, 0373297, Sig C
Capt Willard W. Jenson, 0454643, Sig C
Capt Luther D. Bridgman, 01635621, Sig C

SPECIAL SERVICE SECTION

Maj Gale A. Mathers, 0310331, Inf
Capt James C. Grimes, 0391443, PA (Beachhead News)

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT

Maj Leonard C. Cooke, 0316938, CMC

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Capt Paul B. McGuire, 01235738, Inf
Capt Robert M. Ferrell, 01697057, MC
Capt Isidore Menerowsky, 01690212, DC
1st Lt Benjamin J. Pulley Jr, 01299470, Inf
1st Lt Guy E. Norbury, 01031352, Cav
1st Lt Edmund A. Bogart, 01015527, Inf

MILITARY POLICE PLATOON

Capt San F. Doering, 0409112, CMP
1st Lt John J. Mulhern, 01308680, CMP

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SECTION II ATTACHED FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS

G-2 SECTION

Capt P. R. Whiston, 254588, (Br)
Capt John F. Rieger, 01013512, Inf
1st Lt Lauren C. Kinsman Jr, 0863398, AC
1st Lt Charles F. Marshall, 0101M28, AC
1st Lt Alfred G. Pundt, 01052530, CAC
1st Lt Arthur J. Petersen, 01103354, AC (Photo Int)

G-3 AIR

Capt William M. Davidson, 0427311, AC
1st Lt John M. Frahn, 0577535, AC
1st Lt Thomas A. McDonald, 0704693, AC
1st Lt Badria J. Rashid, 0159513, AC
2d Lt Rubin L. Karlsberg, 0374319, AC
2d Lt Edward C. Lyon, 0805647, AC

CIVIL AFFAIRS

Maj Campbell Dickson, 0521064, (Sec Def)
Capt Maurice Force (French)
1st Lt Richard Hall, 01797639, CAC

LIAISON SECTION

Capt J. William Arnold (French)
1st Lt François M. de Champeaux (French)
2d Lt Pierre-Etienne de Viel Castel (French)

SPECIAL SERVICE SECTION

2d Lt Joseph M. Martel, 01683457, FA

ETOUSA OBSERVER

Col Pete T. Hefner Jr, 010319, Inf

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CHANGES IN OFFICER PERSONNEL

FEBRUARY 1945

I - ASSIGNMENTS; ATTACHMENTS

Date	Officer	Remarks
1	Maj James L. Whitney, FA	Asgd & Jd fr Hq 7th Army
3	Col Pete T. Heffner, Jr., Inf	Atchd fr Hq ETOUSA as of 2 Feb
	Lt Col Carmon L. Clay, Sig C	Asgd & Jd fr 2d Armd Div as of 2 Feb
	1st Lt Francois M. de Champeaux (Fr)	Atchd fr Mission Militaire Francaise
6	1st Lt Baddia J. Rashid, AC	Atchd fr 64th Ftr Wing
14	1st Lt John H. Shumaker, Jr., Inf	Atchd fr 103d Div
18	2d Lt Burt H. McIntosh, AC	Atchd fr 64th Ftr Wing
21	Capt Emil F. Freiburg, FD	Atchd fr 45th Fin Disb Sec
26	1st Lt Peirre M. dePilatzky (Fr)	Atchd fr French Mission

II - RELIEF FROM ASSIGNMENT; DETACHMENTS

2	Maj James L. Whitney, FA	Reld fr Asgmt - Asgd 36th FA Bn
4	1st Lt William J. Stopple, Sig C	Reld fr Atchmt - Ret to 57th Sig Bn
5	Capt Joseph Barr, AC	Reld fr Atchmt - Ret to 64th Ftr Wing
12	Capt William J. Arnold (Fr)	Reld fr Atchmt as of 11 Feb
14	1st Lt Francois M. de Champeaux (Fr)	Reld fr Atchmt - Atchd 3d Inf Div
15	Capt Rieder W. Schell, Inf	Reld fr Asgmt - Asgd Hq 7th Army
25	2d Lt Rubin L. Karlsberg, AC	Reld fr Atchmt - Ret to 12th Weather Sqn

III - PROMOTIONS

3	Capt Edward M. Murray, Inf	Prom to Major, eff 1 Feb
13	Capt Mario T. Villanti, CMP	Prom to Major, eff 10 Feb
16	Col Charles D. Palmer, GSC	Prom to Brig Gen, eff 13 Jan
18	Capt Edward L. Dobbins, Inf	Prom to Major, eff 16 Feb
21	1st Lt Alfred G. Pundt, CAC (Atchd)	Prom to Captain, eff 16 Feb

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III - PROMOTIONS (Cont'd)

Date	Officer	Remarks
22	1st Lt Lauren C. Kingman, AC (atchd)	Prom to Captain, eff 16 Feb

IV - MISCELLANEOUS

2	Capt Albert R. Tryon, CE	Asgd & Jd fr 79th Inf Div as of 30 Jan (previously carried as Atchd)
9	Maj John L. Cooper, Cav	DS Command and General Staff School to Duty
15	Maj Campbell Dickson, Spec Res	Reld fr Atchmt Hq VI Corps - Asgd Hq VI Corps fr 6th Army Group
	1st Lt Richard Hall, CMP	" " " " "
16	Col Pete T. Heffner, Jr., Inf	Dropped fr Atchmt - On TD with Hq VI Corps

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

FEBRUARY 1945

REPORT OF STRENGTH, BATTLE CASUALTIES, DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

I. STRENGTH:

Hq VI Corps:

		Assigned	Attached	Total	Net Change
Officers	1 Feb 45 -	66	21	87	
	28 Feb 45 -	68	20	88	+1
Warrant O's	1 Feb 45 -	4	0	4	
	28 Feb 45 -	4	0	4	0

Hq Co VI Corps:

Officers	1 Feb 45 -	7	0	7	
	28 Feb 45 -	7	0	7	0
EM	1 Feb 45 -	281	34	315	
	28 Feb 45 -	288	24	312	-3

MP Plat VI Corps:

Officers	1 Feb 45 -	1	1	2	
	28 Feb 45 -	1	1	2	0
EM	1 Feb 45 -	87	0	87	
	28 Feb 45 -	86	0	86	-1

II. BATTLE CASUALTIES:

Hq VI Corps: NONE.

Hq Co VI Corps: PFC WILLARD GLISSON, 34645796, Lightly Injured in Action on 15 February 1945 at SAVERNE, FRANCE.

MP Plat VI Corps: NONE.

III. DECORATIONS AND AWARDS:

Hq VI Corps:

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

PAUL A. CHALMERS, 018239, Lt Colonel, GSC (then 11th Armd Div). (VI Corps G.O. No. 13, 27 Feb 1945)

J. WILLIAM ARNOLD, Captain, French Army (atchd Hq VI Corps). (VI Corps G.O. No. 9, 10 Feb 1945)

Hq Co VI Corps: NONE.

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III. DECORATIONS AND AWARDS: (Cont'd)

MP Plat VI Corps:

OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART

PFC ALBERT P. PASCOE, 19048500 (then 7th Inf). (VI Corps G.O. No. 12, 19 Feb 1945)

PFC JAMES H. MILLS, 35637204 (then 7th Inf). (VI Corps G.O. No. 13, 27 Feb 1945)

PURPLE HEART

PFC CARL BENADELLA, 35321205. (VI Corps G.O. No. 13, 27 Feb 1945).

3 Incls.
#1-VI Corps G.O. No. 9, 10 Feb 45
#2-VI Corps G.O. No. 12, 19 Feb 45
#3-VI Corps G.O. No. 13, 27 Feb 45

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 442, U. S. ARMY

GENERAL ORDERS)
: 17 February 1945.
NUMBER 12)

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL I
AWARD, HEROISM NOT INVOLVING ACTUAL CONFLICT WITH THE ENEMY, OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL II
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL III
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL IV
AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL V
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART VI

I. AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Soldier's Medal is awarded to the following-named individual:

JOHN R. CHRISCO, 35031631, Private First Class, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for heroism not involving actual conflict with the enemy on 12 December 1944 in France. When the bridge over which an M-7 gun carriage was crossing collapsed and the tank was plunged into the swollen stream, all of the crew were able to extricate themselves except Private First Class (then Private) CHRISCO and the driver, who was knocked to the floor of the tank and rendered unconscious by the incoming water. Although in icy water up to his chest, Private First Class CHRISCO observed the driver's predicament and went to his rescue. He dove to the bottom of the submerged tank and brought the driver to the surface, after freeing his clothing from the driving mechanism. He then proceeded to move the driver to solid ground, where medical aid was rendered. Private First Class CHRISCO's heroic action undoubtedly saved his comrade's life and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Entered military service from Salem, Missouri.

II AWARD, HEROISM NOT INVOLVING ACTUAL CONFLICT WITH THE ENEMY, OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual who is missing in action:

FLOYD E. CLARK, 37509755, Corporal, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for heroic achievement in action on 1 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from Burdick, Kansas. Next of Kin: Mr. Leo F. Clark (Father) Route #1, Burdick, Kansas.

III AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

HENRY V. HUNT, 32071963, Corporal, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for heroic achievement in action on 1 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from Westville Grove, New Jersey.

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IV AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH, EIGHTH AND NINTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

DAVID R. SHEPHERD, 0[illegible], First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, from 19 March to 10 December 1944 in Italy and France. Entered military service from Greenville, South Carolina.

FOURTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

RALPH L. STOTTS, 0117157, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, from 20 November 1944 to 2 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from Laurel, Mississippi.

FIFTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

JOHN S. BLAIR, 0119021, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery, 33d Field Artillery Brigade, from 20 November 1944 to 4 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from Newark, New Jersey.

JOHN J. FLAHERTY, 0117939, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, from 19 November to 9 December 1944 in France. Entered military service from Arlington, Virginia.

CHARLES H. [illegible], 0[illegible], First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, from 19 June to 21 [illegible] 1944 in Italy. Entered military service from Ware Shoals, South Carolina.

V AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Air Medal is awarded to the following named individuals for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

HAROLD J. RASSELL, 0399920, Captain, Infantry, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), from 1 November to 31 December 1944 in France. Entered military service from Springfield, Illinois.

JOHN J. FLAHERTY, 0117939, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, from 19 November to 9 December 1944 in France. Entered military service from Arlington, Virginia.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

27 February 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 13)

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....I
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....II
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL.....III
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART.....IV
AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART.....V

I AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

WILLIAM E. FISHER, 0199804З, Second Lieutenant, Cavalry, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for heroic achievement in action on 1 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from North Arlington, New Jersey.

II AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals:

A. C. SMITH, 05265, Brigadier General, United States Army, 14th Armored Division, for meritorious service in action from 12 to 20 January 1945 in France. Entered United States Military Academy from Virginia.

PAUL A. CHALLERS, 018239, Lieutenant Colonel, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps (then 11th Armored Division), for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 August 1942 to 3 December 1944. Entered United States Military Academy from Massachussetts.

JOSEPH H. POCOROBA, 20244522, Sergeant, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for heroic achievement in action on 31 December 1944 in France. Entered military service from West Orange, New Jersey.

WAYNE B. HORSE, 36868250, Corporal, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for heroic achievement in action on 1 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from Metamora, Michigan.

HENRY R. MONTES, 39540535, Private First Class, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for heroic achievement in action on 1 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from Corona, California.

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III AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH AND SEVENTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

TIM M. CARIGAN, 01178730, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, from 15 June to 10 December 1944 in Italy and France. Entered military service from Las Vegas, Nevada.

SIXTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

CLAUDE W. IVEY, 016911603, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 938th Field Artillery Battalion, from 2 November 1944 to 31 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from San Antonio, Texas.

IV AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the 2d Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individual for wounds received in action:

JAMES H. MILLS, 35637204, Private First Class, Military Police Platoon VI Corps (then 7th Infantry Regiment), on 17 September 1944 in France. Entered military service from Cassee, West Virginia.

V AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individual for wounds received in action.

CARL BENADELLA, 35321205, Private First Class, Military Police Platoon VI Corps, on 15 February 1945 in France. Entered military service from Masury, Ohio.

By command of Major General BROOKS:

CHARLES D. PALMER
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

Michael L Connors

MICHAEL L. CONNORS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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VI AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE PURPLE HEART

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Purple Heart is awarded to the following named individual for wounds received in action:

ALBERT P. PASCOE, 19044500, Private First Class, Military Police Platoon VI Corps (then 7th Infantry Regiment) on 25 September 1944 in France. Entered military service from Los Angeles, California.

By command of Major General BROOKS:

CHARLES D. PALMER,
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

Michael L. Conners

MICHAEL L. CONNORS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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By Authority of
CG VI Corps
Initials
8 Feb 45

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 46 U. S. ARMY

VI CORPS COMBAT TROOP LIST
081200A Feb 45

Hq & Hq Co VI Corps

36th Inf Div
141st Inf - 131st FA Bn (105mm How)
~~142d Inf - 132d FA Bn (105mm How)~~
143d Inf - 133d FA Bn (105mm How)
155th FA Bn (155mm How)
111th Engr C Bn
Atchd:
59th Armd FA Bn (105mm How SP)
753d Tk Bn (-Co A)
636th TD Bn (3" Gun SP)
117th Cav Ron Sq
Co A 83d Cml Mort Bn (4.2" Mort)
69th Cml SG Co

45th Inf Div
157th Inf - 158th FA Bn (105mm How)
179th Inf - 160th FA Bn (105mm How)
180th Inf - 171st FA Bn (105mm How)
189th FA Bn (155mm How)
120th Engr C Bn
Atchd:
693d FA Bn (105mm How)
191st Tk Bn
645th TD Bn (3" Gun SP)
83d Cml Mort Bn (-Co A)(4.2" Mort)

101st A/B Div
501st Prcht Inf - 907th Glider FA Bn (105mm How)
502d Prcht Inf - 377th Prcht FA Bn (75mm How)
506th Prcht Inf - 321st Glider FA Bn (75mm How)
327th Glider Inf - 463d Prcht FA Bn (75mm How)
326th A/B Engr C Bn
Atchd:
242d FA Bn (105mm How)
Co A, 1 Plat Co D 47th Tk Bn
607th TD Bn (3" Gun Towed)

103d Inf Div
[illegible]9th Inf - 382d FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible]0th Inf - 383d FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible]1th Inf - 928th FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible]4th FA Bn (155mm How)
328th Engr C Bn
Atchd:
781st Tk Bn
614th TD Bn (3" Gun Towed)

14th Armd Div
19th, 62d, 66th Armd Inf Bns
25th, 47th (-Co A, 1 Plat Co D), 48th Tk Bns
499th, 500th, 501st Armd FA Bns (105mm How SP)
94th Cav Ron Sq (Mecz)(-Tr B)
125th Armd Engr Bn

Hq & Hq Btry VI Corps Arty
2d FA Obsn Bn
Hq & Hq Btry 33d FA Brig
194th FA Bn (8" How)
698th FA Bn (240mm How)
Hq & Hq Btry 6th FA Gp
36th FA Bn (155mm Gun)
634th FA Bn (155mm How)
938th FA Bn (155mm How)
939th FA Bn (4.5" Gun)
Hq & Hq Btry 405th FA Gp
977th FA Bn (155mm Gun)
995th FA Bn (8" How)
Hq & Hq Btry 35th FA Gp
17th FA Bn (155mm How)
970th FA Bn (155mm Gun)

Hq & Hq Btry & AAAOD 35th AAA Brig
Hq & Hq Co 1st Armd Gp
Tr B 94th Cav Ron Sq (Mecz)
72d AAA Gun Bn (90mm Gun)
216th AAA Gun Bn (90mm Gun)
533d AAA AW Bn (40mm Gun)
353d AAA SL Bn (-Btry A, Det)
Hq & Hq Btry 91st AAA Gp
431st AAA AW Bn (40mm Gun)
443d AAA AW Bn (37mm Gun SP)
(Supporting 36th Inf Div)
106th AAA AW Bn (37mm Gun SP)
(Supporting 45th Inf Div)
398th AAA AW Bn (37mm Gun SP)
(Supporting 14th Armd Div)
534th AAA AW Bn (40mm Gun)
(Supporting 103d Inf Div)

Engr
40th Engr C Regt
540th Engr C Regt
31st Engr C Bn
36th Engr C Regt

Sig
57th Sig Bn
72d Sig Co (Spec)
269th Sig Hvy Constr Co

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

CHANGES IN TROOP ATTACHMENTS AND DETACHMENTS - FEBRUARY 1945

Eff Date	Attached	Detached
1 Feb	69th Cml (SG) Co	
2 Feb		1st Plat 830th Amph Trk Co
5 Feb	3d Bn 40th Engr C Regt	
7 Feb		79th Infantry Division 813th TD Bn 463d AAA AW Bn 975th FA Bn
9 Feb	Det 196th Engr DT Co	36th Engr C Regt
10 Feb	69th Armd FA Bn 141st FA Bn	693d FA Bn Det 196th Engr DT Co
12 Feb	567th AAA AW Bn	
14 Feb	168th Cml (SG) Co	2d Plat Btry B 353d AAA S/L Bn
15 Feb	Hq & Hq Btry 413th FA Gp 575th FA Bn (-Btrys A & C) 127lst Engr C Bn	
17 Feb	42d Infantry Division	
18 Feb		45th Infantry Division 106th AAA AW Bn
19 Feb	756th Tk Bn 910th AAA AW Bn	
21 Feb	Hq & Hq Btry 46th FA Gp	513th QM Pack Co
22 Feb		Hq & Hq Btry 413th FA Gp 977th FA Bn 353d AAA S/L Bn (-Btrys A,B,C) 393d Med Coll Co
23 Feb		781st Tk Bn
25 Feb		Hq & Hq Btry 33d FA Brig Btry B (-2d Plat) 353d AAA S/L Bn
26 Feb		101st Airborne Division 807th TD Bn 567th AAA AW Bn

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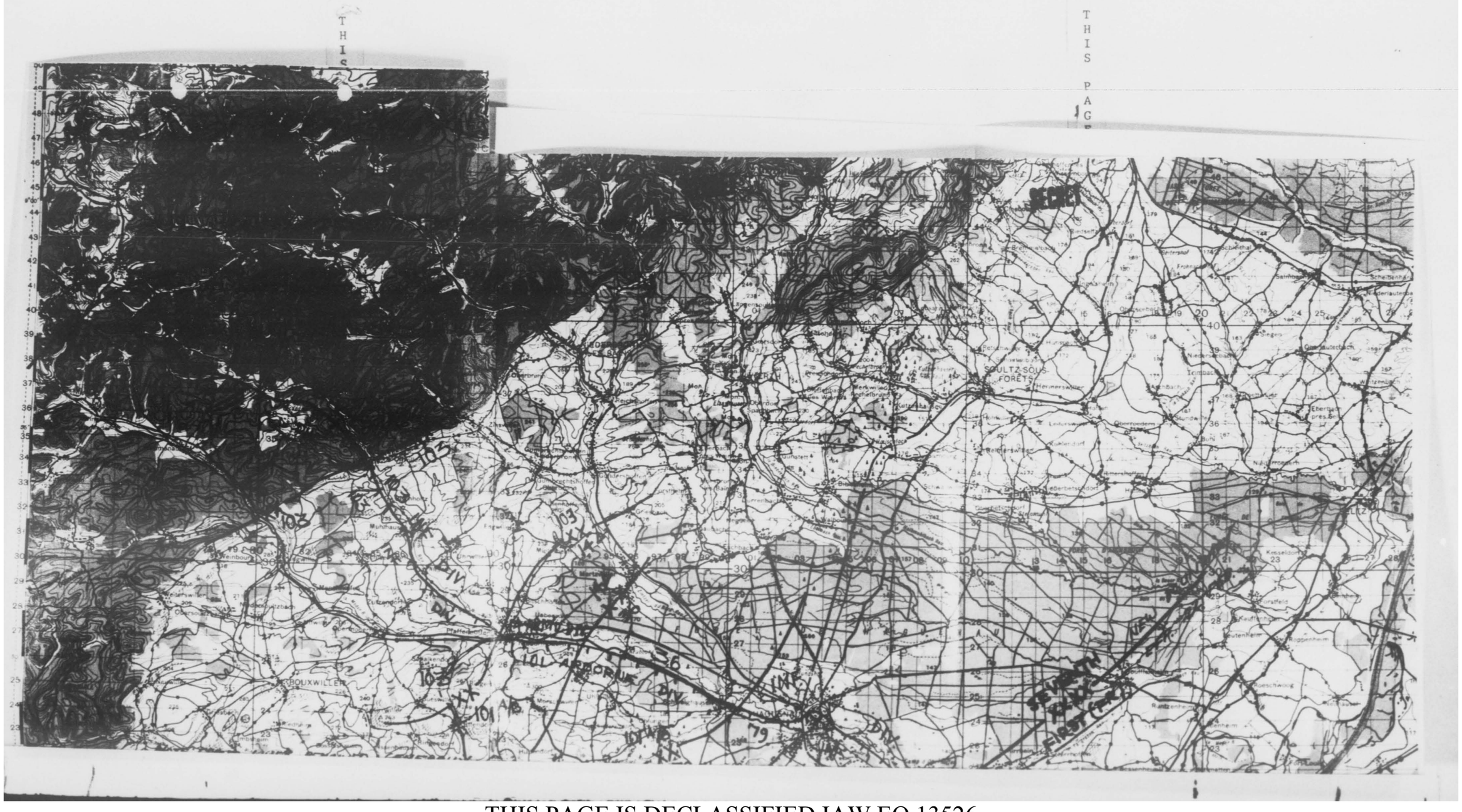

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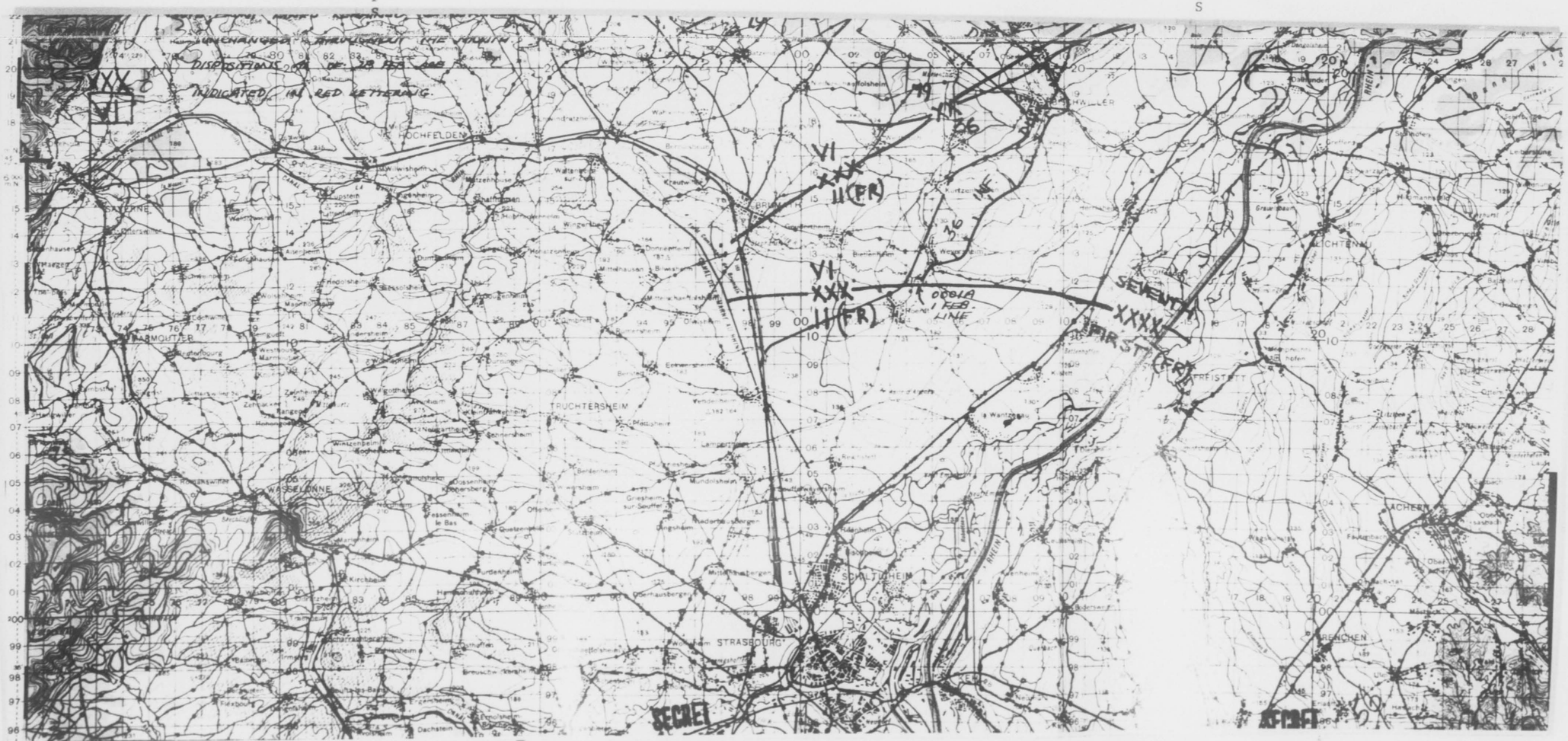

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VI Corps

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SECT

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RESTRICTED 22 MAY 1945
by authority of AC of S, G-2, WDGS
by Ray M. Stroupe
RAY M. STROUPE
Capt., Inf

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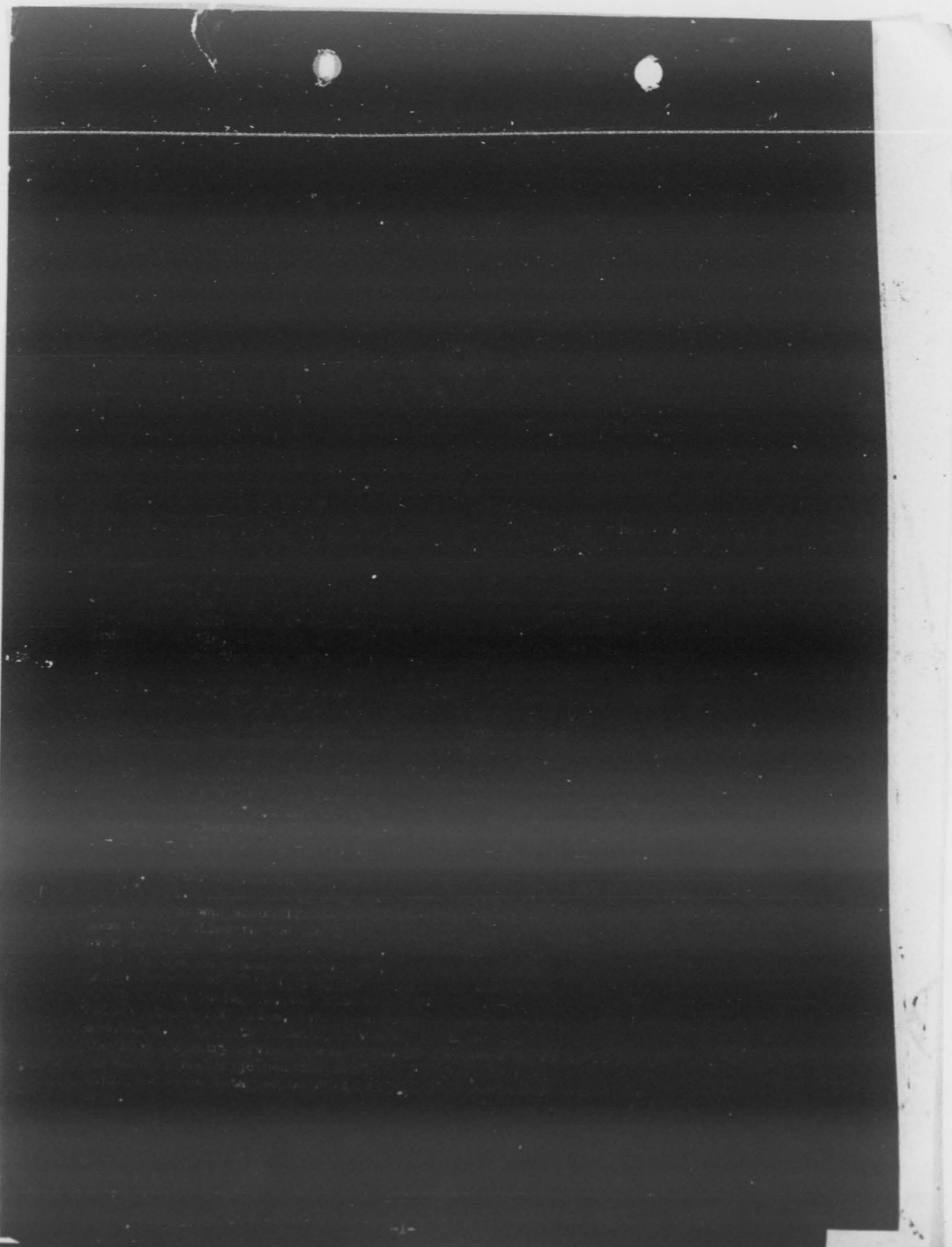

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1 April

1. The enemy greeted the new VI Corps attack East of the RHINE on 1 April with delaying action along the principal axis of advance where entrenched enemy troops supported by mortar, anti-tank and artillery fire, offered increasing resistance throughout the period. The 10th Armd Division initiated and maintained the brunt of the attack along the HEIDELBERG (R-9339) - HEIDELBERG (R-0361) axis. On the Corps left flank elements of the division after piercing strong resistance in the MICHBACH (R-0230) - DALLAU (R-0633) area, succeeded in reaching ALFSEN (R-0781) while reconnaissance troops advanced to within approximately five kilometers west of NECKARAU (R-1178). On the Corps central sector columns of the 10th Armd swept to within a few kilometers of the NECKAR River at [illegible]HEIM (R-0877), while on the right flank troops of the division, after contacting elements of 44 French Corps just north of WIESENTAL (R-0577O) met heavy resistance at [illegible] (R-0[illegible]) but by the close of the period, leading columns had penetrated to the outskirts of [illegible] (R-0257). The activities of the 63d Division on the left and 103d Division on the right were confined to clearing enemy pockets by-passed by columns of the 10th Armd Division. Air activity over the Corps area increased sharply with a total of 23 enemy aircraft over the general [illegible] (R-0747) - [illegible] (R-7733) area. Corps daily prisoner total was to exceed [illegible] prisoners (5500 of which were from [illegible]) were captured from the 17 [illegible], 198 Inf, and 47 VG Divisions.

2. At the outset of the period on the Corps left flank, Combat Command [illegible]-drove Southeast from the general line [illegible] (R-0234) - [illegible] (R-0533). Almost immediately the left column encountered element small arms resistance from elements of the 31 Gren, 17 [illegible] Div. After a short engagement the column captured [illegible] prisoners and caused approximately 125 other enemy casualties. By-passing the rest of the resistance the column attacked to the East, passing through [illegible] (R-0344) and swinging to the Southeast, to reach [illegible] (R-0931) where bazooka and artillery fire was received. Meanwhile Another column swept Northeast to the Southeast to a point approximately [illegible] kilometers East of [illegible] (R-1[illegible]). On the Corps central sector [illegible] drove Northeast from the general [illegible] (R-[illegible]) - [illegible] (R-[illegible]). The left flank column swept through [illegible] (R-[illegible]), and to [illegible] (R-[illegible]) where [illegible] (R-0[illegible]). [illegible] (R-[illegible]), this column met heavy resistance of a [illegible] and anti-[illegible] fire and were also [illegible] (R-[illegible]) were heavy small arms, bazooka, [illegible] was encountered at [illegible] A column was [illegible] - wood, [illegible] (-[illegible]) . [illegible]

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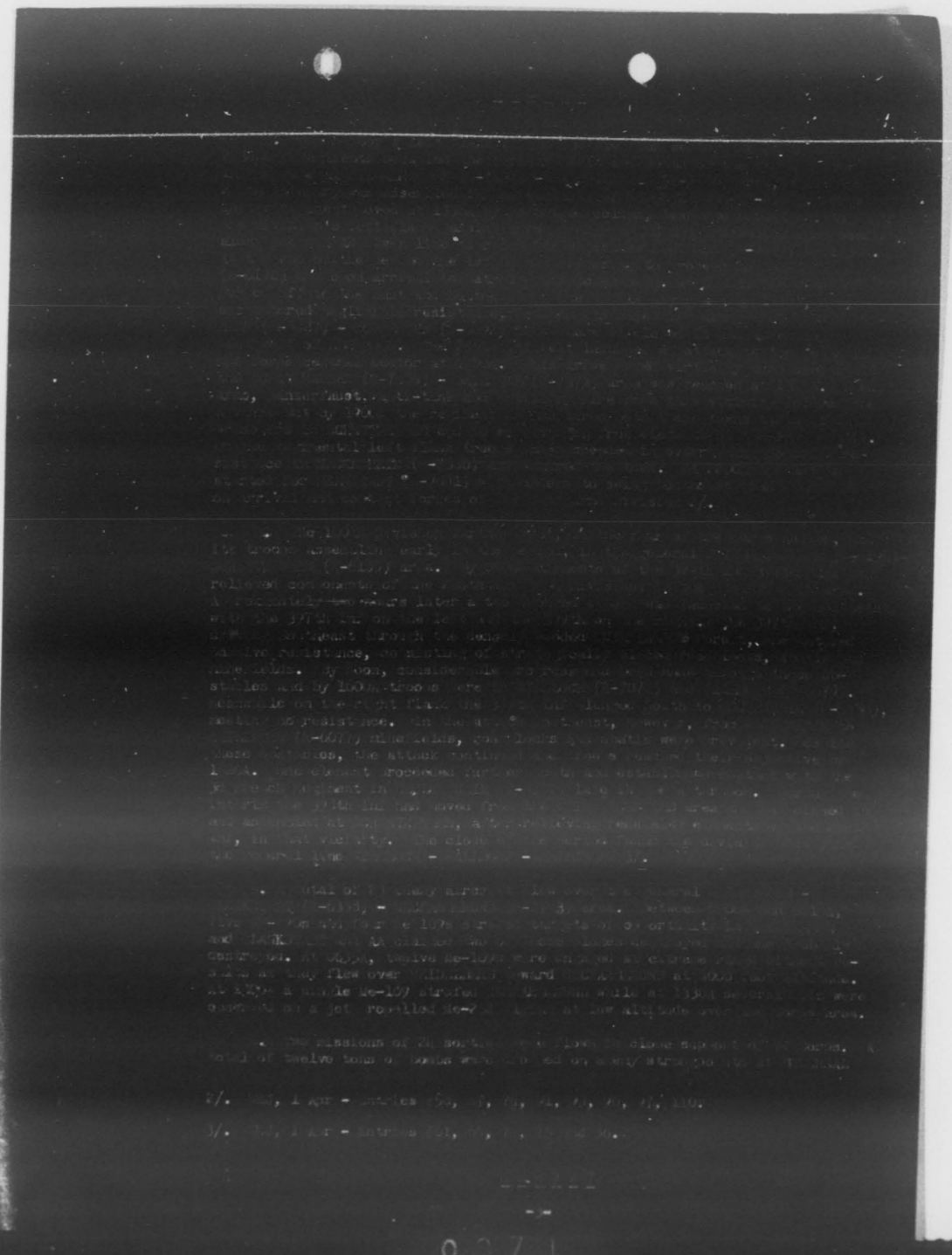

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and KETTNICH, all bombs falling in the target area and starting numerous fires in the latter town.

2 April

1. April 2 was highlighted by appreciable gains along the Corps front, despite scattered but strong resistance. The 10th Armored Division continued to spearhead the attack making sweeping advances along the main axis to occupy BAD [illegible]EN (S-0371) in the Corps central sector, while reconnaissance elements reached the [illegible]R River just east of [illegible]HEIM (S-0361). A strong counter-attack in the vicinity of UNTERO[illegible] (S-0366) was repulsed by the 10th Armored Division with resultant heavy enemy losses in troops and equipment. On the left, the 63d Division following in the wake of the 10th Armored attack completed successful crossings of the [illegible] River at two points, while forward elements reached the outskirts of [illegible]EIM (S-2090). The 100th Division in the Corps right flank, continued to mop up enemy pockets of resistance by-passed earlier in the day by the armored columns. Enemy air was [illegible] active with at least [illegible] aircraft appearing over the Corps area [illegible] strafing and [illegible] reconnaissance missions. Total number of prisoners captured by Corps within the period continued to be high as [illegible] were taken from the 17th [illegible], 10th and 17 SS Divisions.

2. On the Corps left flank [illegible] the 10th Armored Division encountered bitter and stubborn resistance, throughout the period, that slowed the advance. Elements of the 3[illegible], occupying the high ground east of the [illegible] River and south of [illegible]CH, poured fire from guns on column on the [illegible]HZ (S-1790) - [illegible]ED (S-0761) road. [illegible] portion, [illegible], and [illegible] infiltrating east toward the road, [illegible] the troops with [illegible] and automatic weapons fire. A [illegible] column to the [illegible] of [illegible] (S-0373) was [illegible] by troops of the [illegible] resisting in the woods [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] a column of [illegible] encountered moderate [illegible] fire as it traversed the [illegible] column was [illegible] through [illegible] (S-[illegible]) and [illegible] (S-[illegible]). Leading elements [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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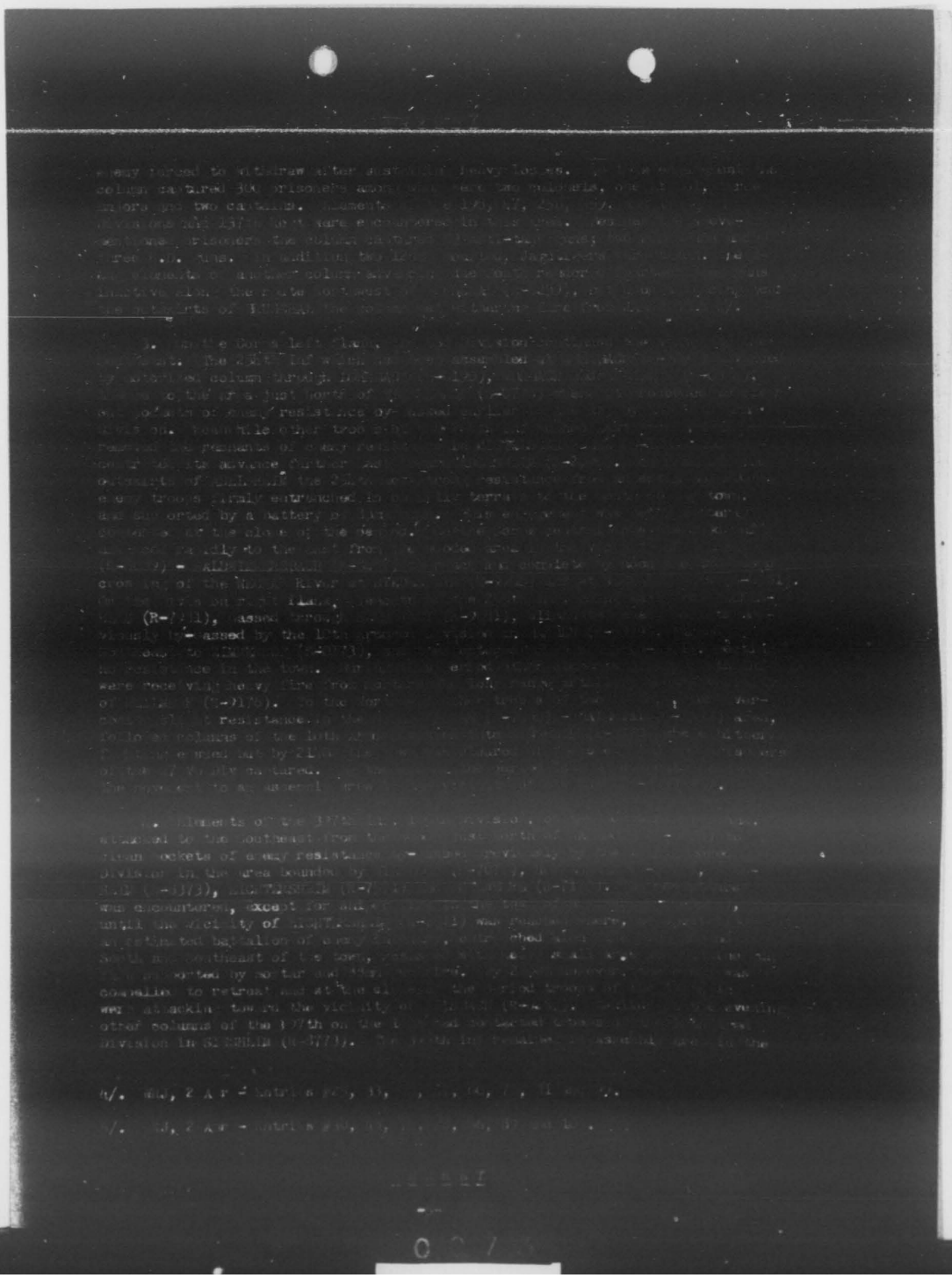

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vicinity of SCHWETZINGEN (R-6137), while the 399th Inf, maintained a battalion front along the HOCHSCHEID (R-5930) - REILINGEN (R-6077) - WALLDORF line 6/.

5. Enemy air was again active during the period with at least 47 aircraft over parts of the Corps area. At 1745B, fourteen Me 109's on a strafing and armed reconnaissance mission flew over the area bounded generally by HEIDELBERG, SANDHAUSEN (R-6783), BARGEN (R-9379), OBER SCHWARZACH (R-9187) and WEINHEIM (R-7785). These planes were engaged by AA with one destroyed and one probably destroyed. Tactics observed during this period indicated that one plane would come in and draw fire while the remainder of the flight came over from another direction. At 0850B, two Me 109's flew over HEIDELBERG on a reconnaissance mission, and a single jet-propelled Me 234 flew over the HEIDELBERG - SPEYER (R-9280) - MANNHEIM (R-5599) area later in the day.

6. Two missions of twenty sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps. The enemy strongpoint at EPPINGEN was again bombed and strafed as well as a troop concentration in MENZINGEN. Some forty bombs were dropped in the target area with good results, a total of fifty buildings being destroyed and numerous fires started in both towns.

7. Operations Instruction No. 69 was issued at 1300B, directing: (a) the attachment of the 3d Bn 399th Inf to the 35th AAA Brig and the relief from attachment to Sixth Army Group "T" Force of the 3d Bn 398th Inf and its return to control of the 103d Division; (b) the attachment of the 93d Armd FA Bn to the 10th Armd Division; (c) the attachment of the 6th FA Gp and 995th FA Bn to VI Corps Arty, and the relief of Hq and Hq Btry 13th FA Brig, 1st FA Obsn Bn and 69th Armd FA Bn from attachment to VI Corps Arty; (d) relief of the 398th AAA AW Bn and 1st Bn 410th Inf from attachment to the 35th AAA Brig 7/.

8. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 121 of this date was received, directing a change in the Corps right boundary, the new boundary to run generally SPEYER - MICHELFELD (R-7670) - HILSBACH (R-8167) - LAUFFEN (R-0854). /8/.

3 April

1. Corps advanced rapidly to the East and Southeast on 3 April. The 10th Armd Division established a bridgehead over the JAGST River Northwest of ODHEIM (R-1072) and eliminated enemy resistance West of the JAGST River between N [illegible]HARTACH (R-0668) and OBER [illegible]HEIM. The 63d Division on the Corps left flank, attacking to the East captured OBERHEIM (R-2090) and reached the outskirts of OSTERBURKEN (R-2293). Other troops of the division on the right mopped up pockets of resistance by-passed by the 10th Armd Division and advanced to the outskirts of HOCHHAUSEL (R-1802). On the Corps right flank the 100th Division advanced speedily to the Southeast and to assist columns of the 10th Armored Division in establishing a bridgehead at the JAGST River in the vicinity of [illegible]HARTACH (R-[illegible]). Prisoners captured during the period from the 17 [illegible], 67 VG and 212 VG Divisions totalled 772.

2. On the left flank of the [illegible] Division thrust, [illegible] continued its attack Southeast from the vicinity of [illegible]BACH (R-[illegible]) from which area the enemy had withdrawn under cover of darkness in order to organize new defenses on a line North of the JAGST River. Columns attacking toward the river drew [illegible] small arms, automatic weapons and artillery fire [illegible] (R-[illegible]) - [illegible] (R-[illegible]) line as well as heavy fire from [illegible] self-propelled guns emplaced on [illegible] Southeast of the JAGST River. [illegible] this area, elements of the division succeeded in effecting a crossing [illegible] bridgehead Northwest of [illegible] (R-1072) at R-[illegible]0 and at the close of the period were engaged in close fighting to further enlarge the bridgehead. [illegible] the Central

[illegible] - [illegible], 7th, [illegible] and 70.

[illegible] 70.

[illegible] 7

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[illegible] Division continued its advance to the North of the Armored Thrust. Elements of the 254th Inf pressed their attack East and Northeast from the vicinities of [illegible] (S-1290) and [illegible] (S-0931). After overcoming strong resistance at the outskirts of [illegible], troops succeeded in entering and clearing the town by early afternoon. Columns pressed the enemy's withdrawal to the vicinity of [illegible] (S-2[illegible]93) and to the high ground to East and Northeast where an estimated 300 to 400 entrenched enemy troops again opposed the advances with small arms fire. In the central sector the 253d Inf continued clearing enemy pockets by-passed by the 10th Armd Division in the area to the North and West of the [illegible] River. After eliminating moderate small arms fire in the vicinity of [illegible] (S-1084) and [illegible] (S-1533) troops advanced to the outskirts of [illegible] (S-1382) where heavy artillery fire was encountered. Other elements of the 253d Inf received harassing sniper fire in the vicinity of [illegible] but met stiff resistance from an enemy strongpoint at S-074[illegible] just Northwest of [illegible] (S-0773) that continued for the balance of the period. On the right flank the 255th Inf was relieved by troops of the 100th Division in the vicinity of [illegible] (R-9972) and [illegible] (S-0471) and began movement to an assembly area at R-9976 9/.

4. On the Corps right flank, the 397th Inf of the 100th Division resumed the attack along the general [illegible] - [illegible] (R-8373) - [illegible] line. Overcoming the remaining resistance in the vicinity of [illegible] and [illegible] columns advanced to the East and Southeast and although leading elements found roadblocks, destroyed bridges, and minefields in their path, they reached [illegible] (R-9166), [illegible] (R-9669) and [illegible] (R-9163) by 1100B. The 395th Inf moved from its assembly area at [illegible] (R-6187) to the Southeast to relieve elements of the 255th Inf (63d Div) at [illegible] (R-9972) and [illegible] (S-0471). The column then proceeded to join troops of the 10th Armored Division at [illegible] (S-0764) and assist in the establishment of a bridgehead across the [illegible] River in that vicinity. The 399th Inf, after being relieved by the II French Corps along the [illegible] (R-5980) - [illegible] line, proceeded to [illegible] and [illegible] and by the close of the period was in the assembly area in the vicinity of [illegible] 10/.

5. Operations Instruction No. 70 was issued at 1100B, directing generally:

8/. [illegible], 3 Apr - Entries #3, 7, 45, 46, 57, 67, 70 and 74.

9/. [illegible], 3 Apr - Entries #27, 65, 67 and 82.

10/. [illegible], 3 Apr - Entries #16, 23, 67 and 81.

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(b) the 100th Division to relieve 63d Division elements in zone and to attack [illegible] the advance to seize area MAIDBURG (S-3355) - [illegible] (S-4659) and to support the advance of the 10th Armd Division and protect the Corps right flank; (c) the 63d Division to continue the attack to seize BITTELBRONN (S-1483) - OSTERWALDEN (S-2293) area, prepared to continue the advance to seize [illegible] (S-[illegible]) - [illegible] (S-5997) area, and to assist the advance of the 10th Armd Division; (d) the 10th Armd Division to continue the advance to seize [illegible] and reconnoiter in force to line SWARISCH HALL - GRAILSHEIM (S-7063) - [illegible]BURG (S-7839) 11/.

4 April

1. April 4 was marked by successful crossings of the NECKAR and JAGST River despite strong enemy counterattacks. On the Corps left flank elements of the 63d Division forged North and East from OSTERWALDEN (S-2293) through dense forest region to occupy the [illegible] (S-2697) - MERCHINGEN (S-2590) line, while other troops of the 63d Division secured a bridgehead across the JAGST River in the vicinity of HERBOLZHEIM (S-1177) before dawn and continued to hold it despite a strong artillery-supported counterattack at 0900B from the high ground East of the river. In the Corps central sector elements of the 10th Armd Division conducted active reconnaissance along the NECKAR River as other troops joined columns of the 100th Division to cross the NECKAR River and establish a bridgehead at NECKARGARTACH (S-0764). A vigorous enemy counterattack of some 200 infantry supported by artillery caused a temporary withdrawal at this site but by 1100B original positions were regained. On the Corps right flank columns of the 10th Armd Division advanced Southeast to the outskirts of BOCKINGEN as elements of the 100th Division followed to mop up bypassed enemy pockets of resistance. A total of 624 prisoners were taken during the day's fighting from units of the 17 SS PG, 47 VG, 198 Inf and 553 VG Divisions.

2. In the 10th Armd Division zone CC "R" assembled and reorganized in the general vicinity of HOCHSTBERG (S-0877) preparatory to exploit through the JAGST River Bridgehead previously established at S-0837[illegible]. CC "A" patrolling along the west banks of the NECKAR River in the vicinity of S-0661 in an attempt to locate an intact bridge received small arms fire from numerous entrenched infantry while intermittent mortar and artillery concentrations fell on elements in NECKARGARTACH and FRANKENBACH (S-0463). The enemy strong point at OBER EISENHEIM and an estimated company of enemy infantry entrenched in the woods in the vicinity of S-03[illegible] continued to offer strong opposition throughout the day with direct anti-tank fire and sporadic artillery fire. While leading columns patrolled the JAGST River from MOCHMUHL to NEUDENAU (S-1173), other elements remained assembled in KIRCHHAUSEN (S-0066) preparing to send dismounted armored infantry to assist elements of the 100th Division in establishing a bridgehead at NECKARGARTACH. CC "B", on the right, encountered small arms and panzerfaust fire from an unestimated number of enemy infantry of the 2d Mtn Div occupying the woods at S-0660. After overcoming local points of resistance Southwest of HEILBRONN forward columns were West of KLINGENBERG and GROSSGARTACH (S-0161) and on the outskirts of BOCKINGEN (S-0660) 12/.

3. On the Corps left flank, the 254th Inf of the 63d Division attacked vigorously to clear the high ground East of ADELSHEIM and woods North and East

11/. Annex No. 3.

12/. RJ, 4 Apr - Entries #4, 6, 14, 19, 29, 46 and 47.

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(S-2793) - ADELSHEIM (S-2090) line, through forward positions of the 63d Division, to pass through MERCHINGEN (S-2390) and NIEDISCHBUCK (S-3694) and [illegible] reached [illegible] (S-4078), encountering only moderate resistance. Here the columns branched off as one attacked to the Southwest against light small arms, automatic weapons and panzerfaust fire to pass through LUSTBRONN (S-4496), STUPPACH (S-4696) and DORTEL (S-5093) and by the end of the period had advance columns in the outskirts of ROTH (S-5091). The other column swung South for BOBSTADT over slippery and soggy terrain and against moderate small arms resistance to clear ASSAMSTADT (S-4193) and enter [illegible] (S-4491). CC "A" advancing from NECKARELZ (R-9883) followed CC "B"'s route to RENTERSHAUSEN. CC "B" after engaging in bitter all night fighting in BOCKINGEN (S-0661) against dug-in infantry supported by tanks and self-propelled guns, cleared the town by morning and attacked toward KLINGENBERG (S-0358) 15/.

3. On the Corps left flank, the 254th Inf of the 63d Division consolidated positions previously gained in the OSTERBURKEN (S-2293) - MERCHINGEN (S-2390) area. The 255th Inf to the right, successfully crossed the SECKACH River in the vicinity of ROTHEIM (S-1386) and fanned out to the East, encountering only slight small arms resistance, to establish positions by the close of the period along the general MERCHINGEN - OBER [illegible] (S-2786) - IDDERN line. The 253d Inf entrenched along the high ground East of HERBOLZHEIM (S-1177) and HOCKMUHL resumed their attack early in the morning only to meet stubborn and determined small arms and automatic weapons resistance. Although receiving heavy mortar and artillery fire, elements of the 253d Inf crossed the JAGST River in the vicinity of HOCKMUHL to advance and enter the town where brisk house to house fighting still ensued at the end of the period 16/.

4. On the Corps right flank, the 100th Division continued to expand its bridgehead across the NECKAR River at S-0764 in the vicinity of HEILBRONN. Elements of the 397th Inf and of the 398th Inf that had already crossed the river incurred considerable casualties as a result of a strong counterattack on the bridgehead at 0115B. Bridging and ferrying operations at the bridge site (S-0764) were seriously hampered by small arms and observed artillery fire originating from the high ground East of the River. Despite this barrage, columns of the 398th Inf and the 397th Inf crossed the river at S-0874 and S-0761 to reinforce the bridgehead and continue the attack on HEILBRONN. By 1445B a large portion of the town was cleared including parts of the factory area to the North of the town out of which 300 prisoners were taken, but stubborn resistance was still being received from a fortified zone in the center of town at S-080615. During this interim other elements of the 398th Inf had joined forces of the 63d Division at OBER GREISHEIM where determined resistance was being encountered. The 399th Inf after overcoming moderate artillery resistance, consolidated positions along the general SCHWAIGERN - GROSSGARTACH (S-0161) - BOCKINGEN (S-0680) line 17/.

5. At 1700B Operations Instruction No. 71 was issued directing: (a) the 100th Division to continue the attack and seize the HEILBRONN - BITZFIELD (S-2467) - LOWENSTEIN (S-2065)area, to protect the Corps right flank and to maintain physical contact with II French Corps on the right; (b) the 63d Division to continue the attack and seize OHRINGEN - HOHEBACH (S-4586) - HITZENHAUSEN (S-5078) area, to protect the Corps left flank and to maintain physical contact with the XXI Corps on the left; (c) the 10th Armd Division to reconnoiter in

15/. WRJ, 5 Apr - Entries #17, 46, 56, 79, 82 and 85.

16/. WRJ, 5 Apr - Entries #17, 51, 62 and 78.

17/. WRJ, 5 Apr - Entries #17, 28, 40, 42, 55, 57, 61, 72, 78 and 81.

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force to the line BACKNANG (S-2840) - SCHOISCH HALL - GRAINSHEIM; to pass CC "B" to Corps control in present area, the Commanding General of CC "B" to [illegible] Liaison with the Commanding General VI Corps immediately 18/.

6. Eleven missions of 33 sorties were flown by the XII TAC in close support of VI Corps, bombing and strafing [illegible] (S-130735), [illegible] (S-10572), the eastern part of [illegible], and tank concentrations at S-1363 and S-116607, an [illegible] concentration at S-113675 and gun positions at S-113647. Results, although generally unobserved, indicated the following damage: Three tanks destroyed and another three damaged, twelve [illegible] destroyed and five damaged, 46 buildings destroyed and 37 damaged and numerous fires burning in the target towns.

6 April

1. On the Corps left flank on April 6, columns of the 10th [illegible] Division made sweeping advances North of the JAGST River to pass through [illegible] (S-5798) and reach SATTELDORF (S-7166) as elements of the 63d Division followed to clear [illegible] (S-4396) and [illegible] (S-4491) while other troops of the division successfully repelled a counterattack in the [illegible] (S-1173) - [illegible] (S-1175) area. The 100th Division on the right flank, encountered stiff resistance in the general JAGSTFELD (S-6671) - [illegible] area repulsing three counterattacks with resultant heavy enemy losses in men and equipment, but troops succeeded in clearing one quarter of [illegible] by the close of the period. Bridging operations were temporarily suspended due to the intensity of enemy artillery on prospective bridge sites. Prisoners captured from the 9 VG, 17 SS [illegible], 17 VG, and 553 [illegible] divisions amounted to 515 by the end of the period.

2. Troops of CC "B" blocking North and East of [illegible] (S-5091) successfully repulsed a counterattack of 100 enemy infantrymen from East of [illegible] and by the end of the day had cleared the town. Columns of CC "B" attacking South from [illegible] (S-4491) were halted in the vicinity of [illegible] (S-4339) by well defended road blocks and blown bridges as well as the stubborn resistance offered by some 200 infantrymen, supported by anti-tank fire, entrenched in the high ground Southeast of the town, while other troops of CC "B" attacking South at from [illegible] (S-4491) met scattered small arms and mortar resistance until [illegible] (S-5737) was reached. There resistance collapsed and the columns swept unopposed to [illegible] and by 2000 were approximately three kilometers from GRAINSHEIM 19/.

3. The 254th Inf of the 63d Division on the Corps left flank, attacked from the [illegible] (S-[illegible]) - [illegible] (S-2390) line through slight harassing and intermittent artillery fire from components of 9 VG Div to have leading columns in [illegible] (S-4696) and [illegible] at the close of the period, while other troops advanced to [illegible] (S-3339). The main body of the [illegible]th Inf advanced against moderate resistance to the Southeast over ground softened by a light steady drizzle to reach [illegible] (S-3034) and [illegible] (S-3331) as other troops consolidated positions on the high ground East of [illegible] (S-[illegible]) while receiving small arms and artillery fire from the North side of the river and from the woods to the Northeast. Columns of the [illegible] Inf, on the division's right flank, advancing parallel to the general [illegible] - [illegible] (S-1177) line, encountered heavy resistance from the [illegible]. A moderate counterattack at 1230 from 25 to 30 infantrymen was

18/. [illegible]

19/. [illegible], 6 [illegible] - [illegible] 3, [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] and [illegible].

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successfully repulsed with heavy enemy losses in the vicinity of [illegible] (S-1178). At 1810B a strong counterattack [illegible] fire from the vicinity of [illegible] (S-1072) and composed of one tank and an undetermined number of infantry was defeated at [illegible] (S-1174) 20/.

4. On the Corps right flank troops of the 397th Inf and the 3[illegible]th Inf of the 100th Division coordinated to continue the attack in the bridgehead area adjacent to HEILBRONN. At 0515B troops of the 553 VG Div launched simultaneous counterattacks at points S-0765 and S-0764. Both counterattacks were limited to intense small arms fire and both were repulsed with heavy losses. Still another counterattack at 1600B by elements of the 553 VG Div was defeated in the general S-031602 - S-013615 area, southeast of [illegible], in which the enemy employed a total of five tanks and approximately 100 infantry. In this encounter two tanks were destroyed and two damaged. While troops of the 399th Inf attacked to the South via [illegible] (S-0673) - [illegible] (S-0572) columns of the 397th Inf attacked due East toward the center of [illegible] and cleared a quarter of the town after bitter house to house fighting. Troops of the 399th Inf were engaged in a fire fight in [illegible] (S-0671) while other elements relieved troops of the 2[illegible] (63d Division) on Hill [illegible] (S-0775). Columns of the 399th assembled in [illegible] (S-0161) as other units moved into position west of the river in the vicinity of [illegible]. [illegible] operations were rendered impossible due to the illumination cast by fires burning in the town, coupled with observed [illegible] fire directed on [illegible] from the high ground on the East river bank 21/.

5. Four missions of 32 sorties were flown in close support of [illegible] during the period and 7.75 tons of bombs were dropped as well as [illegible] rockets fired. Targets were MT concentrations at [illegible], at S-6[illegible] and at S-2[illegible] as well as train in the vicinity of S-[illegible]27. Excellent results were observed as three hangars, four buildings and three Me-109s were destroyed at the [illegible] airdrome, and at the other targets 35 MT were destroyed and as many more damaged and the locomotive of the train at S-2[illegible] was destroyed.

7 April

1. Although appreciable gains were made on the Corps left flank [illegible], resistance was still intense in the [illegible] area. On the Corps left flank, columns of CC "A" reached [illegible] (-7062) as other elements of the 10th Armd swung west to enter C[illegible] (-[illegible]) and other columns patrolled the main supply route from [illegible] (S-4700) to [illegible]. The [illegible] Division elements followed the route of the 10th Armd Division to clear bypassed enemy pockets of resistance, [illegible] other units [illegible] to [illegible] the [illegible] - [illegible]. [illegible] the Corps right flank, the 100th Division still encountered [illegible] resistance in the [illegible] succeeded in expanding the [illegible], [illegible] operations were [illegible] due to observed direct artillery [illegible] [illegible] division.

2. Elements of [illegible] (S-[illegible]100) [illegible] small arms resistance to [illegible]. While troops [illegible] the vicinity to [illegible] the objective, [illegible] columns [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] - [illegible] 17, 2[illegible], [illegible] and 9[illegible].

[illegible] - [illegible] 1[illegible], 2[illegible], [illegible], 7[illegible], [illegible].

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received, directing: that effective upon arrival in the Corps zone, the 32nd RCT (reinf) would be attached to VI Corps for operations 26/.

7. XXX missions of 43 sorties were flown by XII TAC in close support of VI Corps. The following targets were bombed and strafed with good results: troop concentrations in HAGENBACH and the vicinity of S-2175 and S-1172, motor transport in the vicinity of S-9970, S-0263 and S-7165. All bombs hit within the target area, destroying 76 buildings and starting numerous fires.

8 April

1. Regrouping and consolidating of enemy positions along hilly and mountainous terrain with strategically enclosed positions on 8 April revealed evidence of the enemy's intention to strongly resist any further advancement along the Corps front. This intention was further manifested during the day as the enemy, employing all types of weapons and supported by hostile strafing, vigorously opposed our attempts to secure CRAILSHEIM (S-7062) and the HERBST-HAUSEN (S-7191) - CRAILSHEIM supply route. On the Corps left flank and central sector considerable progress was made in clearing the dense forest South of WILDEN and the high ground South of LOMBACH. Although the enemy obstinately defended in the HEILBRONN area, elements of the 100th Division succeeded in transporting supporting tanks and tank destroyers into the bridgehead area as well as clearing some 500 yards of area in the town that was bitterly contested by the enemy in street to street fighting. A total of 391 prisoners were captured by Corps from the 9 VG, 17 [illegible] and 553 VG Divisions.

2. On the Corps left flank units of CC "A" continued to block possible enemy approaches to CRAILSHEIM as elements of CC "A" engaged in clearing remaining enemy resistance in the town. At 1720 and at 1925 enemy troops of undetermined strength and supported by air power waged unsuccessful counter-attacks on CRAILSHEIM. Columns of [illegible] securing the main supply route along the HERBSTHAUSEN - CRAILSHEIM road encountered stiff resistance both active and passive. Enemy infantry which had infiltrated back of leading armored columns succeeded, aided by hourly air attacks, in cutting the route in the vicinities of RIEDBACH (S-5836) and [illegible]DEN (S-7230). Despite these persistent harassing attacks the route was open by the end of the period. Meanwhile leading columns of CC "A" driving west and northwest to SCHILLACH HALL (S-7599) captured HOFFMANN (S-7268) and KIRCHBERG (S-8170) by the end of the period despite enemy air attacks along the route 27/.

3. On the Corps left flank, troops of the 71st Inf, of the 63d Division driving west from the vicinity of [illegible] against determined small arms, automatic weapons and mortar fire, succeeded in pushing the enemy from his heavily entrenched positions on the [illegible] to seize Hill 409 and occupy the general SCHMALAU (S-5[illegible]) - [illegible] (S-6[illegible]) line. On the division's northern sector columns of the 253d Inf attacked south from HEILBRONN (S-[illegible]) and BIBERAU (S-[illegible]) to clear the wooded area where troops of the 63d Div were entrenched, and reached the [illegible] (S-2736) - BIBERAU (S-[illegible]) line. On the right other elements of the 253d Inf in its drive to the northwest to contact units of the 71st Div encountered bitter resistance at [illegible] ambushed [illegible] at 1710 were strafed by [illegible] Me 109's. Forcing the river the troops expanded the bridgehead only to meet stiff resistance from troops in [illegible] with as many [illegible] yards in depth.

26/. Annex No. 1.

27/. [illegible] April - Annex #2, [illegible], #5, [illegible] and #7.

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along the woods South of WINDEN. A counterattack at 0100 at S-2 [illegible] composed of approximately 100 infantry was repulsed and by the end of the period the northwest portion of the woods had been cleared. The 2/30 Inf attacked to the South, three battalions abreast against heavy rocket, small arms and mortar fire to clear [illegible] (S-1477), although troops of the 17 SS PG Div offered stiff resistance, and continued on to clear the northern edge of the woods to the general line, K [illegible] S-1777 - [illegible] (S-1777) 2/.

b. On the Corps right flank, elements of the 19 Inf, 30th Inf Divs and the 100th Divis on continued to encounter bitter resistance in the [illegible] area, while troops of the 397th and 399th Inf advanced as far as the line -07620 - S-022622. Columns of the 399th Inf crossed into the [illegible] area and took up positions along the line S-07 62 - S-02262 to protect the right flank. By 07103 the bridge (S-0770), which had been already [illegible] by artillery fire the night before had been repaired and by noon thirteen tanks and nine tank destroyers had crossed the bridge. [illegible] 17th SS Pz Gren, heavy [illegible] and 10cm fire was again directed on the bridge site from enemy batteries to the East. Later at 27153, a counterattack at the site by approximately 25 infantry and two tanks was successfully repulsed. Meanwhile heavy house to house fighting continued in HEILIGO[illegible] but despite strong small arms, machine gun, and panzerfaust fire, 300 yards of the factory area in the northern edge of the town had been cleared as well as three blocks of buildings in the vicinity of the bridge site. Further North, the 399th Inf continued to expand the bridgehead across the JAGST River but heavy small arms fire in JAGSTHAUSEN (S-0671) plus artillery fire coming from the high ground Northeast of the town delayed complete clearance of the town at the end of the period 27/.

c. Hostile aircraft were again active throughout the period with a total of 33 planes engaged in bombing and strafing. Columns of the 10th Armd Division moved in securing the [illegible] (S-191) - [illegible] road were subject to almost hourly strafing attacks. The heavie t action occurred on the Corps left flank where 20 Me-109's and FW's were active. Other air activity took place at [illegible] (S-3694) where three Me-210's dropped 10 AP bombs, causing slight damage. In the vicinity of [illegible] (S-2293), one Me-262 made an unsuccessful attempt to bomb the bridge.

6. Eighteen missions of 114 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps during the day, bombing and strafing [illegible], DEUBACH, OBERDIN, [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], and a tunnel and airfield at S-1102. Good results were observed as 75 buildings were destroyed and a similar number damaged; two Me-210s and three Me-110s destroyed and two Me-210s damaged on an airfield near [illegible]; and numerous fires were started at all targets.

2 April

1. The enemy continued to oppose our attacks on 2 April with strong and determined resistance throughout the Corps area except on the 63d Division front where he confined his activities to delaying action. On the left flank he was persistent but unavailing in his attempt to seal our supply route to CRAILSHEIM even though employing some 70 sorties for that purpose. In the Corps central

23/. G-3, 3 Apr - Entries #15, 2 , 30, 31, 42, 77, 82 and 97.

24/. G-3, 3 Apr - Entries # 19, 25, 40, 46, 47, 54, 58, 77 and 82.

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sector the 63d Division made substantial advances to occupy WEIDENTHALDEN (S-4527) and INGELFINGEN (S-3779) while on the divisions right flank the KOCHER River was crossed (S-3739) and the HA DENHAUSER AREA was cleared by 2400B. The 100th Divis on on the Cor s right flank still encountered heavy artillery fire and bitter street to street fighting in HALLHONN that limited its advances to small gains. Corps captured 513 prisoners from the 17 SS PG, 553 VG and 559 VG Divisions.

2. Enemy resistance on the Cor s left flank continued to be persistent in attempting to halt our advance to the southeast. Elements of "A" and "B" continued to block all roads leading from CRAILSHEIM and to secure the [illegible] (S-5765) road, as well as to hold CRAILSHEIM itself. The enemy made this task a formidable one by directing some 70 aircraft sorties on [illegible] and the main supply route, allowing [illegible] areas with rockets and [illegible]. Units of CC "A" assigned the mission of clearing the main supply route from [illegible] (S-6280) South to [illegible] were also constantly harassed by roadblocks and infiltrating enemy infantry. The 82d Reconnaissance Combat Team, which was at first to the 10th Armored Division on 1 April attacked to the southeast along the [illegible] (S-5071) - CRAILSHEIM road at 1430 and encounte d fierce enemy resistance sup orted by heavy mortar and artillery fire. Although unable to r pulse a strong counterattack of a reinforced battalion supported by 200 infantry in the area at 2003 the column maintained positions along the [illegible] - CRAILSHEIM road throughout the period. Further North a small detachment of "B" patrolled the HERRET ACKER (S-4171) - GROSS ENTZLI (S-4701) road, encountering intense small arms fire, roadblocks, and direct fire at [illegible] (S-5277). Reconnaissance elements of [illegible] Armored, 42nd Infantry, and [illegible] - GROSSALLMERS (S-2501) route of interest in their sector and secured the axis [illegible] - [illegible] (S-5072) disclosing sea mines and a well anti-tank resistance to reach S- [illegible], about one kilometer South of elements of the 63d Inf Div s on [illegible].

3. The 254th In [illegible] of the [illegible] Division launched its attack at [illegible] the Cor s left flank in a three battalion [illegible] met with little resistance to occupy [illegible] (S-[illegible]) and [illegible] - [illegible] (S-[illegible]) by the end of the period, although [illegible] encountered heavy small arms [illegible] from the [illegible] (S-[illegible]) area. [illegible] he afternoon [illegible] 3 [illegible].

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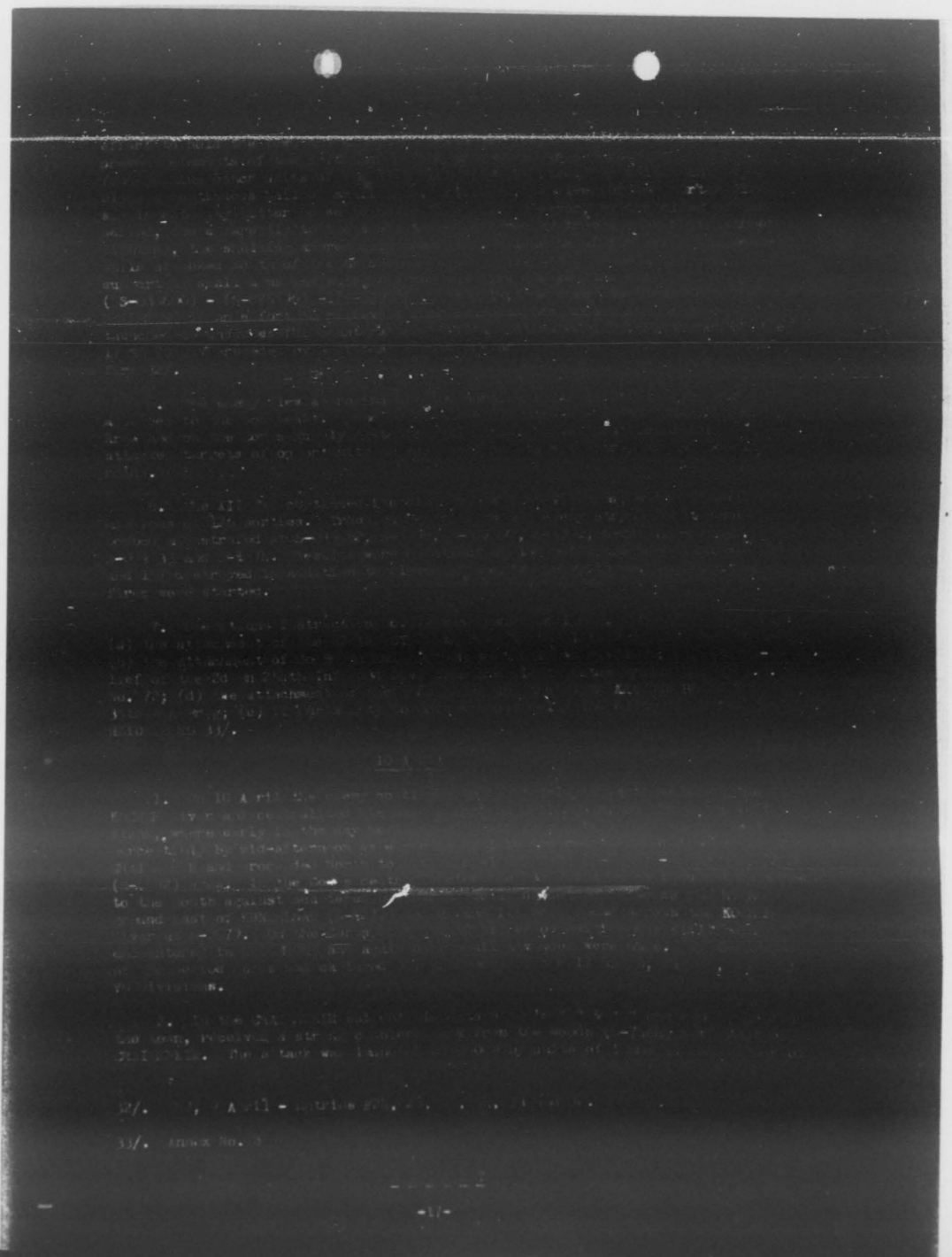

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the JUNGER Regiment Alpen 11; the 3 Battery of Alpine Heavy Artillery Battalion and the 6&6 Pioneer Battalion comprising 600 men in all. The enemy employing artillery, mortar, small arms and automatic weapons fire succeeded in infiltrating troops into the town and occupying buildings but were later burned out by our armor holding the town. The attack was further supplemented at 0630 by some six Me-109s that bombed and strafed. Heavy pressure continued throughout the morning but faded by mid-afternoon. At approximately 2000 CC "A" and "B" disengaged CRAILSHEIM and initiated movement northwest to the vicinity of [illegible] - HOHEBACH - HOLLENBACH (5-5033). As the columns proceeded Northwest units of CC "B" which had previously assembled in [illegible] TT (5-6570), covered the north flank of the disengagement by disposing armor-fast-armed enemy resisting along the [illegible] (5-5350) - CRAILSHEIM road, as the 20th Cav Gp protected the south flank by maintaining a recon screen along the [illegible] - CRAILSHEIM route. At 0001 elements of CC "A" resumed counter-attack in ILSHOFEN (5-7965) by 200 troops of the 66 Grsatz Battalion, killing 50 and capturing 50 prisoners as well as 30 Panzerfausts; 100 rifles and 2 machine guns. Meanwhile recon columns of CC "A" which had been proceeding Northwest betw en the KOCHER and JAGST Rivers contacted a patrol of the 6th Div on which had come South from [illegible] (5-4078) at [illegible] (5-4879) 1/.

3. In the 100th Division sector the 399th Inf, continued its successful advance to the South. While recon units completed the clearing of [illegible] at 1000, leading troops advanced across the JAGST and KOCHER rivers to take the high and strategic ground East of [illegible] (5-4277) after receiving artillery fire from [illegible] (5-4179) and strong small arms and automatic weapons fire from the wooded heights South of the KOCHER. A Recon patrol which had been proceeding South succeeded in its mission of contacting elements of the 10th Armd Division at [illegible] by 0930. In the division central sector the 25th Inf maintained a consolidated active defense position and its aggressive patrols to contact the enemy while the 44th extended to [illegible] to relieve the 14th on the left flank. On the division right flank, the 20th Engr completed its bridge across the [illegible] River at 5-5573, seized Hill 554 (5-5700) South of [illegible] (5-5[illegible]) against light to moderate small arms, mortar and automatic weapons fire from elements of the [illegible] Div. [illegible] pushed further South to capture in a brisk fight in [illegible] (5-5[illegible]). During the night a treadway bridge was completed across the [illegible] River at [illegible] (5-5[illegible]).

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3. The XII TAC flew a total of eleven [illegible] sorties in close support of Corps operations during the day, bombing [illegible] troop concentrations and strong points [illegible] (S-0700), [illegible] (S-3553), [illegible] (S-3676), [illegible] (S-3677) and the [illegible]. A total of four 1000-lb bombs, forty-four 500-lb bombs, [illegible] 500-lb bombs, and four 120-lb bombs were dropped on the targets with the following results: - Many buildings were destroyed; forty damaged; [illegible] were destroyed and thirteen damaged; eleven [illegible] were destroyed and eleven damaged. Hostile air activity was [illegible] [illegible] on the previous two days. Six Me-109s bombed and strafed the [illegible] area shortly after dawn, [illegible] unidentified [illegible] were [illegible] (S-3677) [illegible] the evening.

4. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 12 of this date was received confirming early verbal instructions: (a) allowing the [illegible] Corps to withdraw [illegible] and (b) directing that major elements of VI Corps [illegible] be withdrawn 3/.

5. [illegible] Operations Instruction No. 74 was issued [illegible], directing (a) the relief of the 32d [illegible] by elements of the 10th Armored Division; (b) the 10th Armored Division to withdraw from its [illegible] to [illegible] west of [illegible] (S-3271) - [illegible] (S-3579) - [illegible] (S-3677) and protect the withdrawal 3/.

11 April

1. The 17 SS Pz Div commenced its forced withdrawal from the [illegible] area on 11 April although the troops of the 533 VG Div initiated aggressive action against the [illegible] (S-3677) bridgehead of the 6th Division. On the Corps left flank, the 10th Armored Division completed its withdrawal from [illegible] (S-0702) without incident and followed elements of the 6th Division over the [illegible] bridge, and after initial slow progress over steep and rocky terrain made substantial gains as far south as [illegible] (S-3772). The 6th Division further expanded its [illegible] bridgehead early in the period and despite a series of varying sized counter attacks and aggressive enemy reaction surmounted the steep ridge across the river and attacked to the South and Southwest. The 100th Division continued to [illegible] to initiate a withdrawal from [illegible] and late in the period held a fair portion of the city. Corps prisoner haul for the day from the 17 SS Pz, 2 and 533 VG Divisions was 1,927.

2. The successful withdrawal from [illegible] on the Corps left flank by elements of CC "A" and "B" was completed and the units closed into assembly areas in the vicinity of [illegible] (S-3562). Columns of CC "B" then advanced southwest from the assembly area to [illegible] (S-3581) to cross the bridge of the 6th Division at [illegible] (S-3579). By 1300 leading elements had crossed the bridge but made very slow progress climbing the steep grade on the enemy side of the bridge. Re-entering the wooded terrain, surmounting the ridge, turning then sweeping Southeast only to bog down in soft ground, but were able to extricate themselves to advance through the wooded area to a point (S-3777) just East of [illegible]. Another column of CC "B" crossed the bridge and advanced to the Southwest but on reaching [illegible] (S-3771) encountered intense small arms and artillery fire and found that although the bridge across the [illegible] River had

3/. A map No. 7.

3/. A map No. 8.

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been demolished they were able to locate a ford which they crossed and ad-
vanced southeast against scattered small arms and automatic weapons resistance
to S-356726, just Southwest of KIRCHSCHAM (S-3572). CC "C" moved to its
assembly area in the vicinity of [illegible]
move alert status. CC "B" completed its assembly in the vicinity of S-3577
South of KIRCHSCHAM and remained alerted to follow CC "A" 10/.

3. Troops of the 28th Inf Div Old Division crossed the [illegible] River
at S-337756 South of [illegible] and met heavy small arms and automatic weapons
resistance, while leading elements advanced cautiously up the street along the
South side of the river to reach the [illegible] of the wooded area at S-3577.
Later in the period, friendly patrols scouted the [illegible] of S-3577
(S-3577). To the right the enemy was rapidly reinforced with [illegible]
in the S-3577 (S-3577) area [illegible] a series of hasty counter attacks
in strength, in an effort to locate our positions and flanks. [illegible]
of these were; one at 0600 from 40 to 60 in. [illegible] of the 3
Div at 0630 in the vicinity of S-3577 followed by [illegible]
additional infantry at 0915. At 1130 a patrol of 20 enemy in [illegible]
edge of the woods at S-3577 was dispersed by our small arms and [illegible]
weapons fire. Despite these frequent efforts of the enemy, elements of the 28th
extended the bridgehead at [illegible] (S-3577) to the Southeast [illegible],
while other troops of the 28th crossed the river and attacked up the river in
heavily wooded ridge to reach (S-[illegible] just East of [illegible]. A
way which had started early in the period was completed by 0900. Elements
two columns of the 10th Armd Div were rolling over the bridge to attack
Southeast and East 10/.

[illegible] elements of the 87th Div, [illegible] 10th Armd Div, in the
(S-[illegible]) after combating heavy [illegible] small arms fire and
[illegible] came to loose contact [illegible] and withdrew
troops of the 87th at S-[illegible]. [illegible] a tank
[illegible] to protect [illegible] and by 1[illegible] an
[illegible] Div to continue [illegible] the 87th and by 1[illegible] an
the 87th had cleared several [illegible] reorganized
[illegible]. During the withdrawal [illegible]
[illegible] of the 87th [illegible] all
[illegible] river, [illegible]

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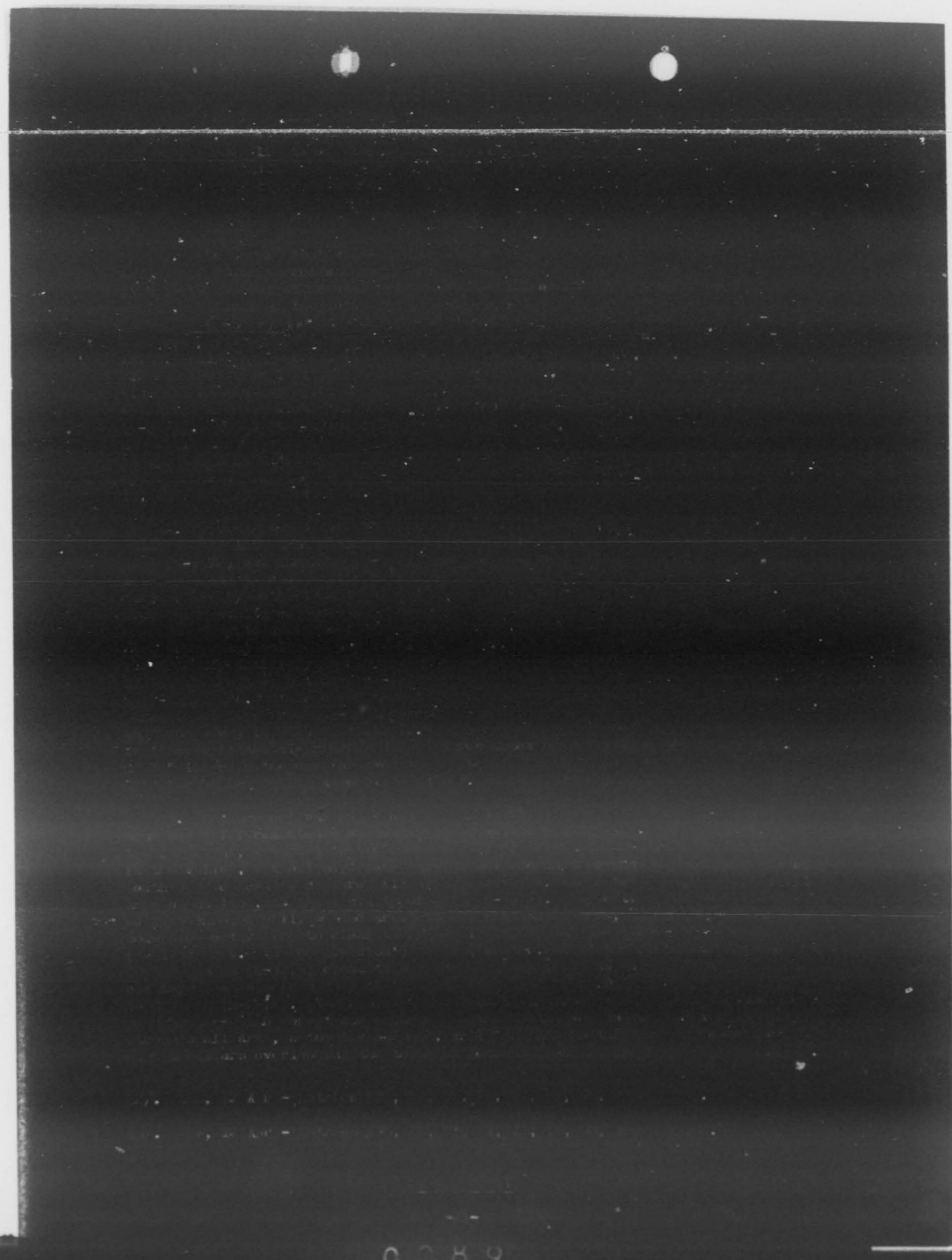

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2. CC "A" of the 10th Armd Division closed in its assembly area in the general vicinity of KIRCHENSALL (S-3572) - NEUENSTEIN (S-3469) - OBERINGER (S-2769). CC "B" continued maintenance of its vehicles as CC "R" continued to block all roads leading from OEHRINGEN.

3. - The 6d Division attacked to the Southeast, three regiments abreast. The 256th Inf on the left flank, although initially receiving small arms fire in the vicinity of LAUBACH (S-5076), advanced Southwest by noon without further enemy contact to a general line OCHSENBACH (S-4569) - STEINKIRCHEN (S-4072) - NEUHALBACH (S-3371) where heavy automatic weapons, self-propelled and artillery fire indicated stiffened enemy resistance. Although the enemy was forced to retreat from OCHSENBACH by mid-afternoon, rockets and high velocity fire from JUNGHOLZHAUSEN continued to fall on the eastern flank through the afternoon. Elements of the 255th striking South toward Formidable High ground along the ROSENBACH (S-3567) - WALDENBERG (S-3767) line encountered heavy concentrations of artillery fire of all calibers directed by troops of the 19d Inf Div entrenched in this area. As the 255th Inf cleared the dense and hilly forest South of ROSENBACH Division artillery directed heavy concentrations of artillery fire on the steep ridge in the vicinity of WALDENBERG thin- counting their efforts on a castle surmounting the ridge from which most of the enemy fire originated. By late afternoon the castle was demolished and the ridge taken. Other elements of the 255th Inf meanwhile had advanced South from [illegible]HAU (S-4070) along the [illegible]OCH HALL (S-4559) road but were delayed in their advance by heavy concentrations of SAm fire coming from [illegible]BACH (S-4263). On the division right flank the 25[illegible] Inf, in a two battalion frontal attack, advanced Southeast from [illegible], captured H[illegible]BACH (S-3265) and after combatting intense small arms and machine-gun fire seized the steep, wooded area to the Southwest. During the afternoon contact was made with troops of the 100th Division in OEHRINGEN (S-3066) 53/.

The 100th Division concerned itself throughout the period with shifting the bulk of its weight towards its left flank so as to coordinate with the 6d Division in the drive further South. [illegible] of the 399th Inf after completing the relief of elements of the 10th Armd Division in BITZFELD (S-2967) overcame intense automatic weapons and artillery fire in PFEDELBACH (S-2865) to advance and contact elements of the 6d Division in OEHRINGEN (S-3066). Other elements were relieved in [illegible]HAU (S-1[illegible]) and [illegible]MÜHLE (S-1[illegible]) by troops of the 397th and advanced East and Northeast to overcome moderate small arms resistance and clear [illegible]LER (S-2[illegible]) and [illegible]HAU (S-2[illegible]). Further advance was [illegible] by enemy firmly entrenched along the general line S-1[illegible] - S-2[illegible] - S-2[illegible] resisting stubbornly with small arms and automatic weapons fire. Still other elements of the 397th Inf in their drive South to [illegible] encountered light small arms resistance from the 19 Div elements in the wooded [illegible] of S-[illegible]. Troops of the 397th continued to outflank [illegible], from the [illegible] securing the high ground in the vicinity of S-[illegible] against [illegible] small arms and automatic weapons fire. Elements of the 397th advanced to [illegible] and despite intense small arms resistance and [illegible] [illegible] S-[illegible] were it was relieved by units of [illegible] Div. Further [illegible] a bridgehead [illegible] were [illegible] to re- [illegible] 397th Inf [illegible] [illegible] vicinity of [illegible] 53/.

[illegible] Corps Operations Instruction No. 7 was issued at 1200, directing

[illegible], 1 Aug - Entries 20, [illegible], 32, 35, 36, 37 and 70.

[illegible], 1 Aug - Entries 48, [illegible], 57, 68 and 72.

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[redacted]

Division to move the 2d [redacted] area designated by Commanding General [redacted] Army;

Commanding General 10th Armd Division to move on 1/0015A April; [redacted]

117th Cav Gp, [redacted] prepared to relieve [redacted] on Trail [redacted].

VI Corps issued Operations Instruction No. 73 at 2100, directing generally: (a) the 10th Armd Division to move on 1/0015A and pass through elements of the 100th and 63d divisions and attack South in sector 2 columns to cut to [redacted] area; be prepared thereafter on Corps order to continue attack to the South and seize [redacted] area and coordinate with commands [redacted] of the 100th and 63d Divisions for passage through front line elements; (b) the 100th Division to continue its present mission and relieve the advance of the 10th Armd Division to [redacted] area with one motorized infantry battalion [redacted] thereafter be prepared to relieve the [redacted] area by water with not less than one RCT (-1 Bn) as well as coordinate with the remaining elements of 10th Armd Division; (c) the 63d Division continue its present mission and follow the advance of the 10th Armd Division to [redacted] area (2 miles East of [redacted] River) area with one motorized infantry battalion [redacted] thereafter be prepared to reinforce [redacted] area by water with not less than one RCT (-1 Bn) as well as coordinate with the remaining elements of 10th Armd Division./56/.

[redacted] TAC flew nine missions of 108 sorties in close air support of VI Corps during the period, these lines bombing and strafing enemy strongpoints and troop concentrations in [redacted] area, [redacted] area, [redacted] area, [redacted] area and [redacted] area. More than 140 buildings were destroyed, many more damaged and numerous fires started in these towns by the 100, 500-lb bombs which covered the targets.

14 April

1. On the VI Corps front during 14 April, columns of the 10th Armd Division passed through forward positions of the 63d and 100th Divisions and developed an aggressive attack to the South and Southeast, advance elements of [redacted] Armd Div (-CCB) at the end of the period. Resistance was generally heavy across the entire Corps front and the enemy employed small arms, automatic weapons, mortar, AA, AT and artillery fire to fight a determined delaying action along our principal axes of advance South of [redacted], [redacted] and Southwest of [redacted] along the [redacted] valley. An increased number of defended mine fields and roadblocks were encountered, especially by the armored forces, which materially slowed the advance. Towards the close of the period, however, developments indicated that the enemy was drawing back to new delaying positions. Corps artillery continued to actively support the advance of infantry and armor.

2. Elements of CC "A" and "B" 10th Armored Division moved out from assembly areas before daylight and at 0600A attacked South and Southeast through forward elements of the 63d and 100th Divisions, with infantry troops following to reduce and mop up all by-passed resistance. Forward units met very determined resistance which was maintained throughout the period along the axes of advance, with enemy small arms, automatic weapons, mortar, AT and artillery fire varying in intensity from light to heavy. On the left, elements of CC "B" passed through the 255th Inf and pushed vigorously to the South along the main axis [redacted]-

55/. Annex No. 1.

56/. Annex No. 8.

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b. In the town of HEILBRONN the 397th Inf of the 100th Division fanned out generally East, Northeast and Southeast. As troops seized the high ground Northeast of the town in the face of moderate small arms fire other units held generally along the railroad in the vicinity of S-1061 and despite strong machine gun fire and intense rocket fire cleared the barracks area at (illegible). By the end of the period the Battalion had cleared to the line (S-0963) to (S-1062). The 397th Inf struck North out of HEILBRONN along the NECKAR River bank and after passing through a Schu mine field at S-0770 started to receive intense small arms fire from KOCHENDORF (S-0770) and from the vicinity of S-0771. Overcoming this fire columns of the 397th attacked to the Northeast and after eliminating mortar and small arms fire from OBEREISESHEIM (S-1072) joined adjacent troops of the 397th to control and occupy the KOCHER River line from (S-0771) to (S-1173). South of HEILBRONN elements of the 397th Inf attacking Southeast along the NECKAR River met to cope with approximately 100 enemy infantry of the 17 SS Div emplaced small arms and automatic weapons fire defending barricades in the north east portion of OBEREISESHEIM (S-0963). In overcoming this resistance units of the 397th encountered a barrage of artillery, mortar weapons, self propelled, 105 artillery and rocket fire together with bitter small arms resistance from the barracks area in the vicinity of (S-0963). After a long struggle lasting most of the afternoon the 397th Inf cleared the barracks area by 1600 hrs/.

5. At 1300 Operations Instruction No. 79 was issued directing: (a) the 10th Armd Division to maintain CCB on an alert status for movement on six hours notice and not to commit them except on Corps order; (b) the assignment of the 127th Engineer Combat Battalion to the 63d Division at 0600 hrs/.

6. Five missions of 53 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps by XIX TAC. The 22 tons of bombs were dropped. Enemy strongpoints and troop concentrations were bombed and strafed at HEILBRONN, (illegible) and at S-1072 and S-2062, all bombs landing on the target area. Numerous fires were started and 23 buildings were destroyed and 29 damaged.

13 April

1. As a result of enemy withdrawals during the preceding period, resistance on 13 April was generally scattered and weak along the Corps front, (illegible) were in control of all objectives. The 10th Armd Division, the (illegible) - (S-1172).

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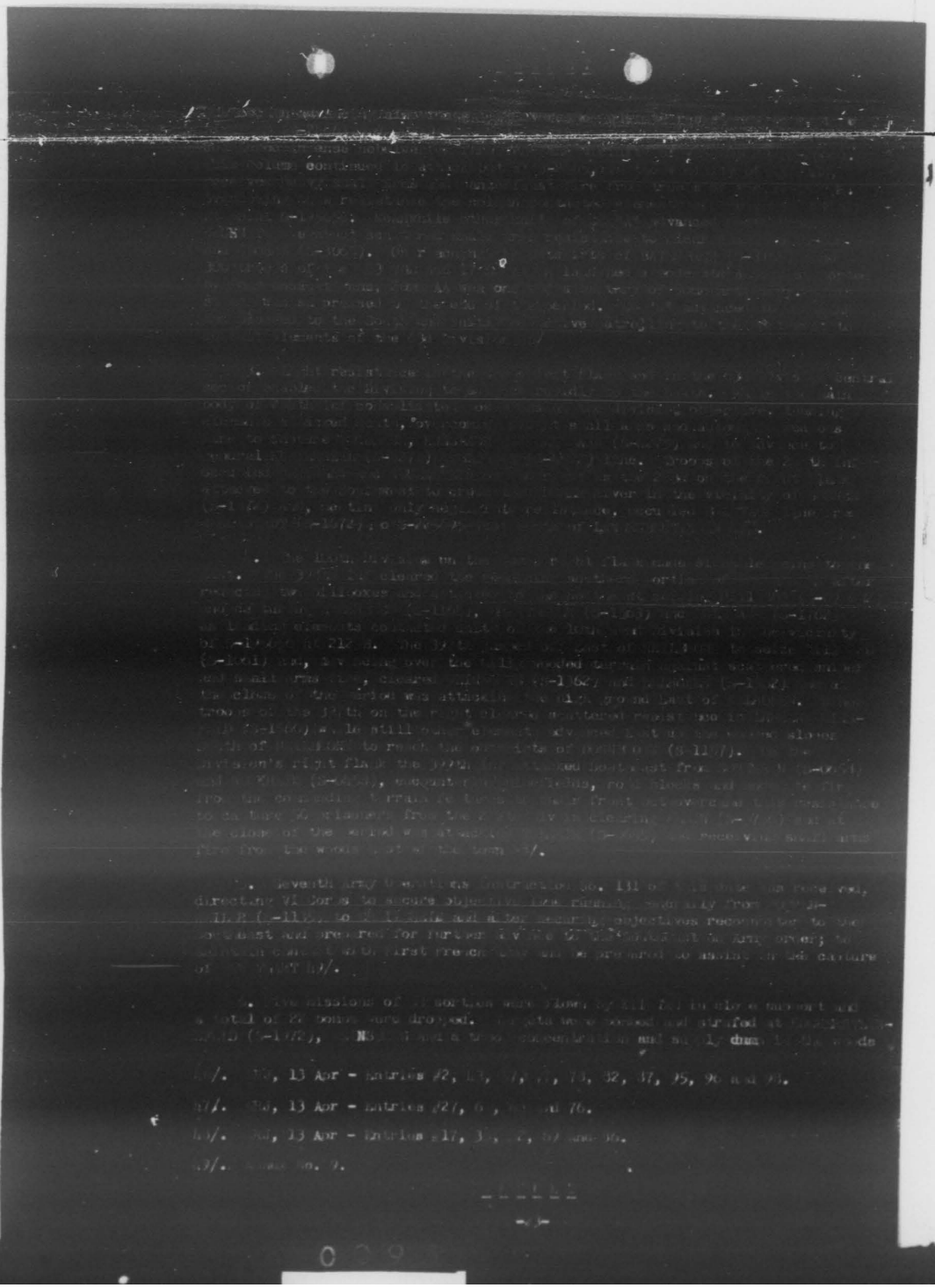

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at S-1059 with overall good results as numerous buildings were demolished and several large fires started. Enemy air activity remained light - one plane strafing lines of communication Northeast of [illegible] until driven off by friendly aircraft.

14 April

1. Resistance increased considerably on the western flank along the general TALHEIM (S-0654) - OBER HEINRIET (S-1656) - WILLSBACH (S-1300) line on 14 April, particularly at OBER HEINRIET where an estimated 200 enemy launched an unsuccessful counterattack, in the 100th Division sector. The 10th Armd Division assembled in an area North of OHRINGEN (S-3368), less CC "R" which remained in blocking positions in OHRINGEN. The 63d Division consolidated positions on the Division objective as leading elements conducted vigorous patrolling to the South, and units relieved the 10th Armored Division at [illegible] (S-3065). The 100th Division on the Corps right moved generally Southeast to attack LOWENSTEIN (S-2056) meeting moderate resistance in WILLSBACH and TALHEIM. At the close of the period the Division was generally on the line TALHEIM - OHRINGEN - NEUENSTEIN - [illegible] - [illegible]. The Corps prisoner total for the day was 432 captured from the 17 SS PG and 553 VG Divisions.

2. Elements of CC "A" were relieved by units of the 100th Division in the afternoon in the vicinities of [illegible] (S-2160) and DIMBACH (S-2064) while the rest of the combat command was relieved by troops of the 63d Division in the vicinity of [illegible] (S-3066). CC "A" then proceeded to an area just North of OHRINGEN - NEUENSTEIN to close in the Division assembly area. While CC "R" remained in blocking positions in OHRINGEN (S-2769) CC "B" reverted to Division control in [illegible] (S-5084).

3. Little activity was encountered throughout the day by units of the 63d Division. While the main body of the [illegible] Inf remained in position in the general [illegible] (S-4773) - [illegible] (S-4776) - [illegible] (S-4276) - KUNSBACH (S-4375) area, leading elements consolidated positions on the Division objective in the vicinity of [illegible] (S-4371) and conducted vigorous patrolling as far south as [illegible] (S-4470) where the patrols drew machine gun fire. Troops of the [illegible] Inf to the right maintained positions on the Division objective in the vicinity of [illegible] [illegible] (S-1970) - [illegible] (S-[illegible]). [illegible]

4. The 100th Division on the Corps right flank continued [illegible]

[illegible]

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SCHWABISCH HALL. To meet this thrust, the enemy had concentrated an approximate 15 tanks, SP and assault guns which operated in harassing and AT roles and delayed the progress of our armor. At S-437668, two enemy tanks and one assault gun were destroyed shortly after mid-day. Although advancing columns were further hampered by heavy artillery fire, a minefield at S-452676 covered by AT fire, and direct AT fire from S-444658, advance elements were reported on the outskirts of SULZ (S-4461) and other columns were following at WITTIGHAUSEN (S-4463) and UBRIGSHAUSEN (S-4465) by the close of the period. Another column of CC "B" attacking South met fanatical sniper resistance at the outskirts of WALDENBURG (S-3967) but pressed South to enter TOMMELHARDT (S-339640) after overcoming small arms and panzerfaust fire at S-381668. The 90th Cav Rcn Sq screened the left flank and penetrated to S-4569 and S-435685. On the right, two columns of CC "A" passed through the 398th Inf in the vicinity of PFEDELBACH and attacked Southeast along parallel roads, with heavy resistance developing along both axes of advance. One column moving Southeast from BAYERBACH (S-308650) met intense light and medium artillery fire and direct AT fire from high ground to the East but pressed on to OBERHOFEN (S-315640) where particularly heavy small arms, mortar and artillery fire developed. By the close of the period, advance elements were just South of HEUHOLZ (S-3263) receiving considerable 20mm AT fire. The right column met equally stubborn resistance at points just South of PFEDELBACH, S-285640 and S-300622, and had cleared GLEICHEN (S-3061) as the period closed 57/.

3. On the Corps left flank, the 63d Division renewed its attack to the Southeast at 0700B and made a general advance of 2-3 kilometers despite heavy resistance all along the division front. The enemy defended stubbornly with artillery, mortar, automatic weapons and small arms fire, and employed towns, woods and favorable defensive terrain to advantage in an effort to halt advancing troops. The 117th Cav Rcn Sq maintained contact with the 324th Inf (XXI Corps) on the VI Corps east flank and occupied BLAUBACH (S-6377), BUNNENSTEGEN (S-6073) and ELPERSHOFEN (S-5872) after overcoming small arms and automatic weapons fire. From left to right, the 254th, 255th and 253d Infs progressed slowly to the Southeast during the day over rugged terrain. By the close of the period, the 254th Inf had pushed forward to occupy a general line GOLLBOT (S-5470) - NIED STEINACH - ORLACH (S-5170) - BRAUNSBACH (S-5068) - ARNSDORF - ESCHENTAL (S-4669). The 2d Bn (Mtz) followed the attack of elements of CC "B" and was last reported in KUPFER (S-4366). Pressing Southeast, the 255th Inf captured BRAGHBACH (S-4567), WESTERNACH (S-4268) and finally occupied WALDENBURG (S-3967) after reducing an enemy pocket which had stubbornly resisted from an old castle. At 1330A, the 253d Inf jumped off in a coordinated attack and despite the heavy resistance and rugged terrain was nearing TOMMELHARDT on the left and had seized a local objective (high ground at S-330630) on the right by the close of the period. The 2d Bn was attached to the 35th AAA Brigade at 1200B on Corps security mission and initiated the relief of 399th Inf elements 58/.

4. On the Corps right flank, the 100th Division continued its attack to the Southeast after being passed through by CC "A" 10th Armd Division. Gains of 4-5 kilometers were made despite stubborn resistance of a delaying nature. At 0800A, elements of the 398th Inf attacked Southeast from the [illegible] (S-2264) and [illegible] (S-2159) areas but considerable machine gun, automatic weapons, mortar and sniper fire limited gains to approximately two kilometers, the strongest resistance coming from high ground in the vicinity of UNTER [illegible] (S-2661). At 2000B these elements were still engaged in fire fights with dug in enemy troops. The 2d Bn (Mtz) jumped off to the Southeast at 1330B behind

57/. [illegible], 16 Apr (Mosbach CP) - Entries #21, 22 and 24; (Ohringen CP) - Entries #2, 3, 20, 32, 35, 47 and 52.

58/. [illegible], 16 Apr (Mosbach CP) - Entry #4; (Ohringen CP) - Entries #11, 16, 21, 31, 35 and 60.

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[redacted] fire just South of [redacted]. After overcoming [redacted] pressed on, meeting small arms, [redacted] (S-2962), and were last reported with the armor [redacted] (S-3061). In the Division central sector, the 47th Inf (-) (Colonel [redacted] (S-2956), and occupied [redacted] against light resistance while elements cleared the wooded area to the South to include [redacted] (S-1972) and [redacted] (S-2053) where stubbornly resisting enemy troops were reported by direct fire were turned to give [redacted] the town at the close of the period. With the mission of [redacted] (S-1956), a column attacked East from [redacted] and reached [redacted] although considerable small arms fire was encountered in the wooded area. On the Division and Corps right flank, the 37th Inf aggressively patrolled to the South, Southeast and Southwest and moved forward during the day to occupy [redacted] (S-1954) and [redacted] (S-0953) despite small arms, mortar and artillery fire from [redacted] positions 59/.

5. The VI Corps Command Post closed at [redacted] and opened at [redacted] (S-2923) at 1100B.

6. The XII TAC flew nine missions totalling 180 sorties in close support of VI Corps. Enemy strongpoints at [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] in addition to more than 40 motor transport and tanks in [redacted] were bombed and strafed with overall good results. Enemy air activity was nil during the period.

17 April

1. The 10th Armd Division, closely followed by the [redacted] Division, continued attacking to the Southeast. Meeting light resistance and substantial gaps, capturing [redacted], one-half of [redacted] and many smaller towns. The 45th Infantry Division commenced moving into the Corps zone late in the period. Employing a considerable number of road blocks, minefields and demolitions along the axes of our advance, the enemy continued to offer stiff, strong and well organized delaying action, but during the afternoon considerable movement was observed heading away from the Corps front indicating the start of the enemy's planned withdrawal. The principal fighting was developed by armor and infantry converging on [redacted] and in the vicinity of [redacted] where the enemy launched three small counterattacks in an unsuccessful attempt to liquidate the 6th Division bridgehead across the [redacted] River. Due to excellent visibility, Air OPs were very active and a large number of observed missions were fired by the Corps artillery in support of our attack.

2. Maintaining the attack, VI Corps, the 10th Armd Division continued to advance generally South with two combat commands abreast and [redacted] progress, especially on the right, due to numerous road blocks, minefields and demolitions which were often covered by fire from enemy delaying detachments. On the left, a column of CC "B" advancing South was followed by elements of the 253d and 255th Inf clearing [redacted] (S-3060) and seized [redacted] (S-3255), encountering heavy small arms fire at S-3255 and mine fields at S-3153 and on the northern edge of [redacted] (S-3155). A follow-up column attacked East [redacted] and, reaching [redacted] and supporting by fire the attack of the 45th Inf [redacted] captured an estimated 300-400 prisoners, and advancing [redacted] (S-3077) after encountering heavy anti-tank fire at S-2575 which was neutralized by an artillery [redacted]. Another column of CC "B", after clearing a 100-yard long [redacted] (S-3011), just South of [redacted], rushed South to S-3167 after meeting direct anti-tank fire at S-3062. Advancing on parallel roads to the Southeast, [redacted] on the

59/. [redacted], 7th Army (Hausbach CP) [redacted] 10 and 15] (Daily [redacted] - Annex 7) 14, 54 and 59.

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right made substantial gains. From HEUHOLZ the eastern column swept along the axis UNTER STEINBACH (S-3462) - SCHUTZBACH (S-3659) - NEUNKIRCHEN (S-3859), the advance encountering a minefield at S-324628, small arms and machine gun fire defending the bridge at S-338609 supplemented by 150mm artillery and mortar fire from high ground to the Southwest, and a road block at S-367587. Followed by elements of the 398th Inf, the western column attacked from GLEICHEN and swept rapidly through all towns on the axis GEISSELHARDT (S-3457) - BUBENORBIS (S-3755) - HUTTEN (S-3654), the advance being temporarily delayed by a minefield and defended road block in the vicinity of S-315605 and small arms, anti-tank and heavy artillery fire at BUBENORBIS. At 1700A another column was committed which attacked South from the road junction at S-331580 and reached the crossroad at S-330544 in MAINHARDT where a German supply column was engaged and dispersed. CC "R" attacked from forward assembly areas at ESCHENTAL (S-4669) late in the afternoon and by the end of the day, the column was passing through CC "B" and leading elements were reported at S-441592. 60/.

3. On the Corps left flank, the 63d Division made considerable progress to the Southeast and South and cleared pockets of resistance by-passed by armor of CC "B". Resistance decreased on this front, but the enemy continued to delay our advance by the extensive use of Engineer obstacles, many of which were covered by heavy fire. On the extreme left, the 117th Cav Rcn Sq with attached 63d Cav Rcn Tr maintained contact with XXI Corps elements and seized BEIMBACH (S-6273) where the enemy offered moderate resistance. Pressing forward against considerable opposition, the 254th Inf (-2d Bn) reached the general line S-505660 - S-525676 - S-562670 - S-580633, seizing DUNSBACH (S-5670), SANDELSBRONN (S-5668), ELTHAUSEN (S-5263) and RUCKERTSBRONN (S-4867), while the 2d Bn which had followed the advance of CC "B" mopped up resistance in GOTTWOLLSHAUSEN (S-4460) and entered SCHWABISCH HALL. With the assistance of the 2d Bn 255th Inf approximately half the town was cleared by the close of the period. The enemy contested our occupation with considerable small arms and sniper fire but yielded 860-1000 prisoners, 700 of whom were captured in a hospital. In the division central zone, the 255th Inf (-) advanced rapidly Southeast against light resistance to the KOCHER River along a front including the towns of ENSLINGEN (S-4764), HAAGEN (S-4663) and UNTER MUNKHEIM (S-4563), and crossed in two places to establish a bridgehead in the vicinity of S-467627 and repulsed three small enemy counterattacks after nightfall. On the right, the 253d Inf (-2d Bn) virtually cleared the wooded and hilly area South of WALDENBURG for a distance of five kilometers and occupied positions at S-385608, S-374616, OBER STEINBACH (S-3763), S-3463 and S-3065 by the close of the period. The 2d Bn, after being relieved at blocking positions in the MECHELBACH (S-3265) area by the 263d Inf (-2d Bn), completed movement to the 35th AAA Brigade for security missions in the Corps rear area 61/.

4. On the Corps right flank, the 100th Division pressed Southeast behind armored spearheads of CC "A" and advanced up to six kilometers against light opposition. The 398th Inf moved through wooded and hilly terrain, meeting road blocks and considerable sniper fire, and seized HASENHOF (S-2667), NEUHUTTEN (S-2757) and positions at S-284616 while elements advancing Southeast from GLEICHEN with CC "A" cleared an area to include BUBENORBIS and ZIEGELBRONN (S-3256), being opposed by scattered small arms and automatic weapons fire which was quickly eliminated. In the division central sector, attacking East and Southeast from LOWENSTEIN, adjacent columns of the 397th Inf advanced

60/. WRJ, 17 Apr - Entries #16, 21, 2[illegible], [illegible]5, 28, 35, 38, 41, 45, 62, 66, 67, 77, 81, 86 and 87.

61/. WRJ, 17 Apr - Entries #26, 46 and 65.

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through SPA ZENHOF (S-2556) and SCHMELLENHOF (S-2455), cleared [illegible] (S-2655) and by the close of the period had forced the enemy to withdraw from KUHNWEILER (S-292542) and VORDER BUCHELBERG (S-256531). Resistance consisted primarily of light small arms fire from scattered groups of 15-20 men, occasionally supported by artillery and SP gun fire. Elements of the 399th Inf attacked South down the NECKAR Valley at 1230B and advanced to the line S-176 28 - S-170528 where considerable small arms and flakwagon fire was received from the vicinity of JETTENBACH (S-2751). In the sector East of the river, patrols encountered machine gun and small arms fire from enemy well entrenched along the general line S-104533 - S-081524 - S-060528. An estimated 60-80 horse-drawn vehicles loaded with personnel and drawing some artillery pieces came out of the woods in the vicinity of S-385535 about 2000B and moved to OBER ROT (S-4148) where the column was pounded by our artillery fire which inflicted heavy casualties 62/.

5. In accordance with Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 134 of this date, the 44th Infantry Division (-324th RCT) with the 395th AAA AW Bn, 772d Tank Bn and 776th TD Bn was attached to VI Corps effective 17 April and commenced movement to an assembly area North of LANGENBURG (S-5374) 63/.

6. Seven missions of 64 sorties were flown by the XII TAC in close support of VI Corps. Strongpoints at GRONAU (S-1750), BLAUBACH (S-6377), BIBERSFELD, ZIEGELBRONN and two groups of 20 and 100 horse-drawn vehicles were bombed and strafed with heavy damage being inflicted on enemy equipment and installations. Single hostile aircraft were over the Corps area on recon at 1235B, 1400B and 1700B but were not engaged by AA.

7. Seventh Army Field Order No. 12, dated 17 April, was received, directing VI Corps to: (a) advance with utmost speed in zone to the SWISS BORDER; (b) thereafter block to the West to prevent escape of enemy from the BLACK FORE T; (c) pass the 63d Division (Reinf) to X I Corps effective 0001B, 19 April. Effective immediately, new boundaries were announced as follows: (a) Between Seventh Army (VI Corps right flank) and First French Army — West of SPEYER (R-5180) no change, MICHELFELD (R-7670) - HILSBACH (R-8167), LAUFFEN (S-0353) (all to Seventh Army) - STUTTGART (S-9020) (to First French Army) - WALDENBUCH (S-0205) - TUBINGEN (W-9791) - ROTTWEIL (-6651) - BLUMENFELD (W-7013) (all to Seventh Army); (b) between VI Corps and XXI Corps — SCHWABISCH GMUND - GEISLINGEN - BLAUBEUREN - ERIGEN - UNLINGEN - HERBERTINGEN - MESSKIRCH - LUDWIGSHAFEN (All to VI Corps) 64/.

8. At 2300B, VI Corps Operations Instruction No. 79 was issued, directing: (a) the 44th Division (-) to pass through the 63d Division not later than 190600B and attack South to secure the Corps initial objective in zone (GOP INGEN area) and crossings of the FILS River; prepared to continue attack to the South and Southwest; protect the Corps left (E) flank and maintain physical contact with XXI Corps; (b) the 63d Division to continue present mission until passed through by the 44th Division, after which the Division with attached 753d Tank Bn, 822d TD Bn and 436th AAA AW Bn would pass to control of XXI Corps; (c) the 100th Division to continue attack South to secure the initial Corps objective in zone (ESZLINGEN (S-1616) - EBERSBACH (S-3114 area)

62/. WRJ, 17 Apr - Entries #18, 64 and 74; WRJ, 18 Apr - Entris #3 and 21.

63/. Annex No. 9.

64/. Annex No. 10.

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and crossings of the FILS River; protect the Corps right (W) flank and maintain physical contact with II French Corps; (d) the 10th Armd Division to continue attack South in the zone of the 44th Division to secure crossings over the REMS River between PLUDERHAUSEN (S-3723) and SCHWÄBISCH GMÜND (S-5124); thereafter be prepared to continue attack in the direction SCHWÄBISCH GMÜND - DORFINGEN (S-4013) to secure the road net in the KIRCHHEIM (S-2707) area 65/.

13 April

1. With armor advancing rapidly to the South and by-passing pockets of resistance, follow-up elements of the 63d and 100th Divisions mopped up and made substantial gains to the South and Southeast on the VI Corps front during 13 April, while the 44th Division (-324th RCT) closed in the Corps area and commenced movement to forward assembly areas in the 63d Division zone. The enemy continued to fight a moderate delaying action, principal opposition coming from Engineer obstacles covered by fire of all type weapons and from enemy infantry making strongpoints of towns and favorable terrain. On the extreme west flank along the NECKAR River, however, the enemy appeared to be holding firm, in an effort to prevent our cutting off a withdrawal route from the pocket now created by the II French Corps East and South of STUTTGART. The Corps artillery continued to support our advance with numerous observed missions and a heavy harassing program during the night.

2. Plunging South with two Combat Commands abreast, the vigorous attack of the 10th Armd Division gained up to 15 kilometers, being impeded mainly by numerous defended and undefended road blocks and extensive minefields, the latter destroying a number of jeeps and half tracks. On the left, [illegible] passed through CC "B" in the vicinity of SCHWÄBISCH HALL and carried the attack South to the vicinity of MICHELFELD (S-4503) by mid-day after losing a tank in a minefield at S-4454560. CC "B" assisted in mopping up resistance in SCHWÄBISCH HALL during the morning and at 1400B attacked South with two columns through CC "R" in the RIDDEN area, the latter unit being placed on an alert status for commitment anywhere in the division zone. One column of CC "B" advanced against scattered resistance and cleared [illegible] (S-6682), [illegible] (S-4749), and had advance elements nearing [illegible] (S-4143) as the period closed; a second column swept rapidly to the South, clearing [illegible] (S-4760), [illegible] (S-4547), [illegible] (S-4114), and by 2200 leading elements had reached S-4442 00. No serious opposition was encountered although a brief small arms fight occurred at [illegible] and several road blocks had to be removed. On the right, three columns of CC "A" renewed the attack Southeast from the HALLBERG - WESTHAUSEN area and progressed rapidly to a general line S-2701 - HAUSEN (S-3947) - [illegible] (S-3747) after seizing [illegible] (S-4053), [illegible] (S-4113), HAUSEN (S-4216) and [illegible]. Although increasing numbers of road blocks and minor obstacles delayed the advance, principal opposition developed at [illegible], with heavy artillery, mortar and artillery fire being encountered at the former town. [illegible], disorganized and confused elements of the 901 and 326 Ins (1) and [illegible] and 26th Arty Regts resisted with small arms and artillery fire and are being overrun, and yielded more than 600 prisoners 65/.

3. On the Corps left flank, [illegible] continued to progress Southeast and gained up to eight kilometers. [illegible] resistance was encountered on the

65/. Atchs nc. 2.

65/. WDJ, 13 Apr - Charles Ed, [illegible]

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(S-4044) and GAILDORF (S-4946) were bombed and strafed, resulting in the destruction of numerous buildings, motor transport and horse-drawn vehicles. During the day, several single enemy aircraft were reported high over the area South of HEILBRONN, apparently on recon missions, while at 2127B four hostile aircraft which strafed the vicinity of S-2565 and S-2868 were engaged by heavy AA with unknown results.

7. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 135, dated 18 April, directed the 103d Infantry Division to move to an area designated by the CG VI Corps, the division being attached to VI Corps upon arrival 69/.

19 April

1. On 19 April the attack of VI Corps was spearheaded by a 28 kilometer drive to the South by the 10th Armd Division which achieved the proportions of a complete breakthrough and resulted in the seizure of bridges over the RAMS and FILS Rivers at LORCH (S-4424) and FAURNDAU (S-3813) respectively. Road blocks and other obstacles initially retarded the armored attack, but enemy engineers were apparently unable to keep pace with our advance and by noon our troops were moving unopposed. The 44th Division passed through the 63d Division and supported the 10 Armd Division attack, the 63d Division passing to XXI Corps control. Enemy resistance remained stiff on the west flank where the 100th Division made only local gains. The Corps artillery fired observed missions on enemy personnel and vehicles, with the bulk of unobserved missions being fired on harassing targets.

2. Stabbing Southward in a far reaching advance, two Combat Commands of the 10th Armd Division made a complete breakthrough on the left of the Corps front. Road blocks, principally of the abatis type, and minefields were encountered throughout the morning, but a marked decrease in obstacles of this type was reported as the speed of advancing armor apparently overran enemy detachments left behind for that purpose. It was believed the enemy was withdrawing with the 553 VG Division leading and the 198 Inf Division following, the latter's 326 GR being used for rear guard delaying action while a new defense line could be established along the RAMS River. CC "B" renewed the attack South on the east flank of the Corps boundary generally along Highway 298. Blown bridges in the vicinity of KLEIN ALTDORF (S-4[illegible]476) and UN[illegible] (S-4944) considerably delayed the advance, but thereafter columns swept rapidly through GSCHWEND (S-4739), SPRAITBACH (S-4833), MUTLANGEN (S-[illegible]127), by-passed SCHWABISCH GMUND (S-5124) to the west, and crossed the RAMS River at S-492231 and S-476230 over two bridges captured intact despite considerable small arms and bazooka fire. By the close of the period, leading elements were reported to be in the vicinity of S-4920. On the right, three columns of CC "A" carrying power saws to expedite the removal of numerous abatis attacked South along secondary roads generally between the 40 and 46 eastings and made rapid progress — at times hitting a 40 mile per hour pace. The leading column achieved a complete breakthrough by reaching the RAMS River at [illegible] (S-4383) where a bridge was seized intact. Volkssturm offered token resistance in the town but after a short fire fight 136 prisoners were taken and the column continued Southwest via [illegible] (S-4317), and [illegible] (S-4316) to seize a bridge intact over the FILS River at F[illegible] (S-3813) where blocking positions were set up for the night. The remaining elements of CC "A" followed the advance and were preparing to cross the bridge at [illegible] while CC "B" was enroute to an assembly area in the vicinity of [illegible] as the

69/. Annex No. 9

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regrouped 31 Jul 70/.

b. [illegible] being passed through by elements of the 4th Division [illegible] the 4th Division with 7 [illegible], 22d Inf Bn and [illegible] attached passed to the control of X Corps. By the close of the [illegible] elements of the 4th Division had relieved the 11th Cav [illegible] assembled and prepared for movement to the [illegible] Division area of 20 Dec.

c. The 11th and 71st Inf [illegible] Infantry Division [illegible] from [illegible] along the 66 Northing at 0800, passed through forward positions of the [illegible] Division on the [illegible] kilometers [illegible] with [illegible] Armored Division. On the left, the 11th [illegible] strong enemy small arms and [illegible] fire in the vicinity of [illegible] elements of the [illegible] Div) on wooded high ground to the [illegible], [illegible] continued [illegible] and cleared an area [illegible] to the southern edge of woods in the vicinity of [illegible] and [illegible] (-), meeting only [illegible] small arms, machine weapons and artillery fire. Elements also [illegible] (-) which had surrendered to [illegible] of the 10th Armd Div [illegible] a flank. On the right, the 71st Inf [illegible] approximately 20 kilometers [illegible] to the [illegible] along a general axis [illegible] (-) - [illegible] (-) behind [illegible] without contacting the enemy, although occasional harassing artillery fire was received. [illegible] on against scattered resistance from small delaying forces which were easily liquidated, the 71st Inf had reached [illegible] (S-1825) and the [illegible] (S-1920) - (S-0913), while elements assembled at [illegible] as the perimeter closed. The 3d Bn closed [illegible] (S-1460) area, reverted to division control, and [illegible] to its forward assembly area at [illegible] (S-1845). The 3d Bn [illegible] out with the mission of supporting [illegible] 10th Armd Division and was last reported at [illegible] 71/.

d. On the right half of the Corps front, the 10th Division made steady progress to the South, with the most extensive gains [illegible] along the left boundary. Enemy resistance from scattered pockets was [illegible] although a cohesive defense line still existed in the sector just east of the [illegible] River which halted progress to the South. Attacking [illegible] the left flank, the 39th Inf progressed rapidly to the [illegible] River, [illegible] reports of civilians capturing numerous small villages without a fight. At [illegible] (S-3958) where the enemy withdrew after a short engagement, a bridge was captured intact and the drive was sustained South to [illegible] (S-3951) against no reported opposition. Elements of the regiment assembled at [illegible] (S-3932), prepared to move to seize the high ground at S-2950. The 39th Inf (-2d Bn) continued their steady advance [illegible] over rugged terrain, [illegible] resistance. [illegible] (-) was captured early [illegible] the day but rifle, mortar and SA fire from enemy on high ground surrounding the town [illegible] subsequently eliminated. [illegible] (-2959) was defended by small arms and light artillery fire but the enemy was forced to withdraw under [illegible] pressure of the attack. Troops nearing [illegible] (S-2956) struck [illegible] mm, small arms and machine gun fire but entered and [illegible] clearing the town. [illegible] closed at high noon a general line [illegible] - [illegible] (S-2543) - [illegible] (-1547) was held. Elements assembled in [illegible] moved by motor to [illegible] and [illegible] west after crossing over the [illegible] River on a captured bridge. On the division right flank, the 39th Inf (-2d Bn) continued attacks South and seized [illegible] and [illegible] (S-1041) after overcoming light enemy [illegible]

71/. [illegible], 19 Apr - Entries #1, 11, 1[illegible], 2[illegible], 37, 43, 47, 56, [illegible] and 105.

71/. [illegible], 19 Apr - Entries #40, [illegible], 43, 106 and 109.

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mortar fire 72/.

6. Elements of the 103d Infantry Division commenced movement to an assembly area South of OHRINGEN (S-2361) during the period and were attached to VI Corps upon arrival.

7. Seven missions of 83 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps by the XII TAC. Enemy strongpoints at [illegible]HEIM (S-3932), SULZBACH (S-2906), MUTLANGEN (S-5127), ALFDORF (S-4529) and WASCHENBEUREN (S-4319) in addition to motor transport at S-460175 and S-[illegible]42 were bombed and strafed with excellent results. As to enemy air activity, several low flying aircraft strafed a column of the 10th Armd Division at 1735B in the vicinity of S-5128. No damage was reported by our column but two aircraft were claimed as probably destroyed.

8. At 1700B, VI Corps Operations Instruction No. 30 was issued, directing: (a) the 103d Division to assemble without delay in the OHRINGEN - [illegible]HEIM (S-3369) area, pass through elements of the 44th and 100th Divisions in zone not later than 210600B and attack South to secure initial Corps objective in zone (ROOSDORF S-2712 - UHINGEN S-3313 area) and crossings of the [illegible]IS River, prepared to continue attack to the South and Southwest; follow closely advance of 10th Armd Division elements in zone, prepared to motorize one RCT on 4 hours notice; (b) the 44th and 100th Divisions to continue present missions, prepared to motorize one RCT on 4 hours notice; (c) the 10th Armd Division to continue present mission and on secondary division objective, be prepared for further movement to the South and Southwest 73/.

20 April

1. On 20 April, sweeping advances continued to be made on the eastern half of the VI Corps front where the 10th Armd Division, closely followed by 44th Division elements, seized [illegible] and prepared for a renewal of the attack to the South. The general enemy withdrawal precipitated by our breakthrough across the [illegible]IS River continued at a rapid rate during the period, with the enemy offering generally light resistance in an effort to delay our advance. Heavy vehicular and troop traffic was reported to be proceeding South and Southeast of KIRCHBERG and the [illegible] (S-1129) - [illegible] (S-4112) area indicating the enemy's attempt to extricate his forces from impending encirclement. The 103d Division continued to move into the Corps sector with some elements occupying positions in the [illegible] division sector late in the period.

2. Continuing to exploit the advance of VI Corps, the 10th Armd Division attacked vigorously to the East from its [illegible] bridgehead across the [illegible] River and seized KIRCHBERG. The division [illegible] and prepared for a renewal of the attack to the South. [illegible] at bridge crossings over the [illegible] and [illegible] Rivers, and sent elements to seize [illegible] In connection with the 44th Inf Div, [illegible] were liberated. [illegible] and [illegible] advanced rapidly to the South and Southwest, meeting fairly stiff resistance. On the left, columns of CC "[illegible]", after crossing South from the [illegible] River, captured [illegible] - 1129, entered the [illegible] River, and upon reaching [illegible] (S-4112) developed a coordinated attack to the East. Sweeping aside or eliminating

72/. [illegible] - Entries Fi[illegible], [illegible], 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 107; [illegible] -

73/. [illegible]

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ANNEX I

All operation, the 84th Infantry Division two tanks at [illegible] (S-[illegible]), [illegible] a road block covered by small arms and artillery fire at S-[illegible], destroyed two additional tanks, some trucks and artillery pieces at [illegible] (S-[illegible]) and entered KI[illegible]. On the right, a column of [illegible] advanced south through [illegible] against light, scattered opposition, [illegible] and crossed the [illegible] River at [illegible] before daylight. [illegible] be relieved by elements of [illegible] the bridgehead [illegible], two columns of CC "A" [illegible] to develop an attack [illegible] several [illegible] (S-[illegible]) - [illegible] (S-[illegible]). Tactical opposition came from several [illegible] (some estimated at 2 [illegible]) dug in along the roads in the vicinity of [illegible] and [illegible] - [illegible] who resisted stubbornly with small arms, bazooka and [illegible] fire through-out the afternoon before being overrun. Thereafter, CC "A" and "B" entered and secured KI[illegible], meeting no light resistance before the close of the period. CC "B" was relieved late [illegible] by the 71st Inf and continued movement to join the remainder of the division at KI[illegible] 74/.

3. The 84th Division continued to support the 10th Armd Division by moving [illegible] behind the armored advance and encountered only scattered isolated groups of enemy which offered small arms opposition. In accordance with a VI Corps directive that the 84th Division occupy [illegible] and guard American and German wounded in hospitals, the 1st and 11th Inf cleared and secured the city in conjunction with elements of CC "B", while the remainder of the regiment established blocking positions along the line [illegible] - KI[illegible] (S-5738) - [illegible] (S-[illegible]) to protect the rear and division left flank as the nearest adjacent unit of XII Corps was reported to be at KI[illegible] (S-[illegible]). An estimated [illegible] enemy [illegible] elements in [illegible] (S-[illegible]) at 0730 has withdrawn into woods to the south after an hour-long fire fight. Elements of the 329th Inf [illegible] South and occupied positions along the [illegible] River in the vicinity of [illegible] (S-[illegible]) while another force of the regiment established [illegible] from [illegible] (S-[illegible]) to [illegible] (S-[illegible]) along the [illegible] River. Towards evening, SP gun and small arms fire was received from the vicinity of [illegible] (S-[illegible]). In [illegible] the 19th Army Corps - Chemnitz [illegible] - was captured during the morning. The 71st Inf moved rapidly to the South and secured the bridgehead across the [illegible] River in the [illegible] area which had been seized by the 10th Armd Division. Elements of the 71st Inf relieved CC "B" at the bridge sites in [illegible], [illegible] while another force pressed South behind CC "A", reaching [illegible] by the close of the period 75/.

4. Elements of the 103d Infantry Division continued to close into the Corps zone, and this new division was given the central sector of the VI Corps front with boundaries to be effective upon passage through elements of the 84th and 10th Divisions. The 328th Inf was [illegible] to [illegible] where preparations were made to attack [illegible] (S-[illegible]) while the remainder of the regiment assembled at [illegible] (S-[illegible]), prepared to attack South in the new division zone. The 411th Inf was immediately committed upon closing in the Corps area and pushed South, reaching [illegible] (S-[illegible]), while other elements of the regiment assembled in [illegible] (S-[illegible]). The 409th Inf [illegible] continued movement into the Corps sector as the period closed.

5. On the western half of the Corps front, the 10th Division [illegible]

74/. [illegible], 20 Apr - Entries [illegible], 21, [illegible], 110 and 111.

75/. [illegible], 20 Apr - Entries 60, 2, 3, 101 and 117; [illegible], 21 Apr - [illegible].

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momentum in the attack to the South and Southeast, and made substantial gains against only scattered small arms resistance. The advance was mainly impeded by numerous demolitions and road blocks and the majority of towns occupied during the day were found clear of the enemy and undefended. On the left, elements of the 398th Inf continued to advance South from WESTERMUER (S-3541) throughout the night, being delayed by road blocks and casual scattered resistance, and seized ELTHUTTE (S-3436), their objective, by 0925B. Follow-up elements of the regiment passed through and carried the advance South to ESHLSHALDEN (S-3630) by the close of the period. In the division central sector, a column of the 397th Inf passed through MURRHARDT at 0515B, moved West and cleared the wooded high ground in the general vicinity of S-3243 and S-2944, South and Southeast of SULZBACH. The column then pressed South, reaching UNTER WEISSACH (S-2733) without contacting the enemy. After clearing SULZBACH (S-2446), another column of the 397th Inf attacked Southwest through O[illegible] and cleared BACKNANG, (S-2440) which was only lightly defended by small arms fire, and then pushed rapidly Southeast against light, scattered small arms fire to seize ALLMERSBACH (S-2735) and at the close of the period were engaged in a fire fight on high ground to the Southeast and Southwest of the town. On the right, the 399th Inf advanced rapidly through OBERSTENFELD, KLEIN ASPACH (S-1944) and GROSS ASPACH (S-2242), while elements cleared the woods in the vicinity of S-13480 and ridges at S-1951. Contact was re-established at OBER SCHON AL (S-2[illegible]39) where 30 enemy armed with panzerfausts made a futile stand, and at HAUBACH (S-240375) where two tanks were lost to heavy enemy fire before the town was cleared. Continuing South, advance elements were nearing WIEDENDEN (S-2232) as the period closed. The 117th Cav Rcn Sq (Reinf) was attached to the 100th Division and immediately moved into the sector East of the NECKAR River to cover the division right flank and occupied NECKARWESTHEIM (S-0650), GROSS BOTTWAR (S-1446) and MUNDELSHEIM (S-0745) without contacting the enemy 76/.

6. Eight missions of 39 sorties were flown in close support of VI Corps by the XIX TAC. Enemy strongpoints at ADELBERG (S-3720) and HOLZMADEN (S-3105) and 100 motor transport in the vicinity of X-365933 were bombed and strafed, while four missions were devoted exclusively to motor transport concentrations in the KIRCHHEIM area with excellent results. Approximately 167 motor transport were destroyed, 175 damaged, 30 horse-drawn vehicles destroyed, 56 damaged and numerous gun positions were destroyed and/or damaged. The appearance of a total of 31 hostile aircraft during the period evidenced the enemy's concern over the 10th Armd Division's rapid advance in the KIRCHHEIM corridor. An early morning recon by three FI-156s was reported in the vicinity of S-4313, then between 1445B and 1815B eight Me-262s and one Me-410 appeared on recon missions. At 2000B, twelve Me-109s and one Me-262 bombed and strafed the [illegible] area while at the same time six [illegible]-190s on recon were observed in the vicinity of S-4529. All the planes were engaged by AA with tentative results of two destroyed and three probably destroyed.

21 April

[illegible]. Resistance was generally spotty across the entire VI Corps front during 21 April, the enemy continuing to leave only small delaying parties behind his withdrawal action to hinder our progress, and substantial advances were made by all Corps divisions. Still leading the attack, tanks of the 10th Armd

76/. [illegible], 20 Apr - Entries #26, 22, 37, 43, 48, 53, 57, 69, 81, 87, 91, 95, 100, and 118.

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[illegible] south [illegible] and WEST ROHRN [illegible] numerous [illegible] other obstacles which slowed the progress. Similarly good progress was made by the two infantry divisions [illegible] in the face of the scorched earth, [illegible] the 103 River between [illegible] and [illegible] on the left while the 10[illegible] was set across the [illegible] River on the right and was pushing towards [illegible] West of [illegible] at the close of the period. Meanwhile the 10[illegible] continued to clear [illegible] and, assuming responsibility for the center zone in the [illegible] area, elements as far south as [illegible]. Because of the continued rapid movement, our Artillery was principally occupied in displacing forward.

2. The 10[illegible] Armd Division continued to spearhead the Corps advance to the southeast, but progress was hampered by increased resistance, difficult hills, wooded terrain and obstacles which limited gains to approximately ten miles along the front, although [illegible] - HOF Autobahn was cut. A [illegible]ing on the left flank at 0830 from the line [illegible] (S-412098) - [illegible] (S-3613), CC "B" encountered no more than heavy small arms opposition a[illegible] BY 4[illegible] (S-4006) and SCHMIDT (S-4007) [illegible] for long, but the adv[illegible] was slowed by extensive road blocks and abatis, one at S-3400, on the road to [illegible] (S-4013) being strongly covered by small arms and anti-tank fire. However, that town had been cleared by 1[illegible] and the column had continued on to clear [illegible] (X-4399) by 1300[illegible] and started [illegible] out posted the road leading southeast. On the right of the attack, CC "A" [illegible] shed off from KIRCHDORF (S-2006) at 0630A and made only slow progress during the morning against stubborn resistance, particularly in NEIDLEIN AM (X-3599) where observed artillery, mortar, panzerfaust and small arms fire were encountered in addition to extensive abatis. However, this resistance had been broken by late afternoon and the advance had rolled ahead to [illegible]HEIM (X-3992) and [illegible] (X-3792) by 2000A and recon elements reported the [illegible] - [illegible] (X-4080) road clear by midnight. CC "A" remained in the KIRCHEIM area blocking to the west and picked up more than 300 miscellaneous prisoners from troops trying to escape the [illegible] pocket along the autobahn, and then moved to [illegible] (S-2600) after 103d Division elements arrived in KIRCHHEIM ///.

3. Following along on the left of the Corps sector behind the armored spearhead, two regiments of the [illegible] Division made considerable progress to the southeast while the third protected the Corps east flank. Despite persistent civilian reports that SS troops and elements of the Werewolf were forming for a counterattack in the HOLZHEIM (S-4311) area, resistance in this sector was light, limited to sniper fire and occasional SP gun and artillery fire as the advance continued well past HOLZHEIM. Attacking on the left from the [illegible] (S-3723) - [illegible] (S-[illegible]) line with two battalions, the 324th Inf swept South, hindered only by road blocks, to reach the [illegible] ground at S-4307 and UFFHEIM (S-5003) by mid-afternoon and by 1800A had established a line running generally along the road from [illegible] (S-465015) to [illegible] (S-5505) along the North of the PFIL River. Lt Col Ritter, CO of the 3[illegible] in passing this advance, was captured in [illegible]KIRCHEN (S-5202) and elements pushed South of the River to [illegible] (S-5605) late in the evening. The 71st Inf on the right met similarly light opposition in its attack from the general area [illegible]HEIET (S-335095) - [illegible] (S-355105) - [illegible] (S-3911). The advance swept through [illegible]HAU (S-[illegible]), AUENDORF (S-435033), and [illegible]DORFEN (S-405015) and forward elements on the right flank had reached [illegible]HEIM (X-4093) and OBER [illegible]STEIN (X-43970) late in the period. The 11[illegible] Inf continued to guard the Corps left flank along the general line [illegible] (S-4[illegible])-[illegible] (S-[illegible]) - [illegible] (S-530250) through most of the day

///. [illegible], 21 A/r (Ehringen GP) - Entrs #11 and 24; (Helmsheim C) - Entries #2, 5, 20, 33, 54, 56, 58 and 60; Hq, 22 A/r - Entry #20.

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but late in the afternoon the 2d Bn began movement by motor from GAILDORF to DONZDORF (S-525115) 78/

4. Attacking South and Southwest behind the 10th Armd Division [illegible] on the right half of the Corps zone, the 100th Division was hindered by minefields, extensive abatis and blown bridges but made advances of more than ten miles. On the left of the attack, the 397th Inf had reached initial objectives at GRUNBACH (S-2324) and GERARDSTETTEN (S-253250) at 0400B and WINTERBACH (S-230238) by 0800B, taking 90 Volkssturm prisoners in GRUNBACH after a brief small arms fire fight. This advance continued across the REMS river, light vehicles and foot troops crossing at WINTERBACH while heavy vehicles crossed at HEPPACH (S-210255). Forward elements reached BEUTELSBACH (S-215240) and the high ground South of WINTERBACH at S-265223 by early evening, and continued on through HOHENGEHRE (S-265192) to BALTMANNSWEILER (S-2617) before midnight. On the right the 399th Inf cleared up [illegible] (S-2232) during the night and attacked Southwest at 0900B. KORB (S-1923) was cleared after a short fight with Volkssturm employing small arms and panzerfaust fire, and this advance continued Southwest to WALBLINGEN (S-1627) where a bridge was taken intact. Swinging to the South, this RCT cleared through [illegible] (S-1624) and [illegible] (S-2025) and continued South to [illegible] (S-163190) and SCHANBACH (S-202190) by the close of the period. While active resistance was only light, minefields, road blocks and extensive demolitions, together with rugged terrain, slowed progress toward the objective Autobahn (STUTTGART - ULM) to which the Corps Commander had directed the Division to proceed with speed to cut off the German forces moving East out of STUTTGART. After being relieved by the 410th Inf (103d Div) in the ALTMUHL (S-3436) - [illegible] (S-3630) area, the 399th Inf moved to assembly at WINNENDEN, closing by 1900A 79/.

5. The 103d Division continued to move into the center of the Corps zone, between the 44th and 100th Infantry Divisions, and advanced South, mopping up by-passed areas and meeting only spotty resistance — mostly road blocks defended by burp gun and machine gun fire of snipers. On the left of the new division zone, the one battalion of the 410th Inf at LORCH moved Southeast by motor through UHINGEN to relieve 10th Armd Division elements in KIRCHHEIM by late afternoon. Meanwhile, the main body moved from [illegible] (S-2941) to the UHINGEN area, forward elements then pushing Southeast to SCHLIERBACH (S-315095). The bulk of the 411th Inf moved South from assembly areas at [illegible] (S-295465) and [illegible] two bridges over the [illegible] intact as [illegible] (S-315245) was cleared of scattered enemy groups by nightfall. One battalion pushed South to clear [illegible] (S-2316) and continued on to [illegible]. The threat of an attack on elements in [illegible], when Air OPs spotted heavy MT columns coming East along the [illegible] from STUTTGART, was eliminated when close air support was called down — the [illegible] fighter bombers destroyed more than [illegible] enemy vehicles and damaging [illegible]. By late evening, the [illegible] (-1st [illegible]) had closed in the [illegible] to complete the division's movement to the Corps zone 80/.

6. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 137 of this date was received (a) limiting the VI Corps boundary [illegible] to along the [illegible] STUTTGART East to the junction with the [illegible] river and thence South along the [illegible] to [illegible] (S-[illegible]), and [illegible] so much of [illegible] No. 12 which had directed the VI Corps to [illegible] line 81/.

77/. [illegible], 21 Apr - Entry #13 ([illegible]); Entries #3[illegible], [illegible] and [illegible].

79/. [illegible], 21 Apr - Entries #7, 1[illegible], [illegible] and [illegible]; [illegible], 22 Apr - Entries #17 and 2[illegible].

80/. [illegible], 21 Apr - Entries #7, [illegible] and 73; [illegible], 22 Apr - [illegible].

81/. [illegible] No. 9.

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(a) t e 10th Division to continue [illegible] objective, to attack [illegible] or a objective, prepared to continue [illegible] to the north; (c) the 1 [illegible] ground as of the [illegible] the north, to attack [illegible] (X-[illegible]) - [illegible] (X-[illegible]) line, and then attack northward to secure [illegible] objective, prepared for further movement north, [illegible] R/.

[illegible] (X-[illegible]) at 1030.

[illegible] hostile aircraft were [illegible] over the [illegible] dawn [illegible] 8x-Zlos and two 8x-Zeks [illegible] and at [illegible] S-8211 and S-[illegible] - one [illegible] claimed as [illegible] destroyed.

[illegible]

1. [illegible] for some better [illegible] and more [illegible] assault to the south - at [illegible], resistance was disorganized [illegible] and [illegible] made, the 10th Armd Division [illegible] miles to reach [illegible]. While the rest of the [illegible] Division were [illegible] intense fighting in the [illegible], [illegible] hurtled southward in the wake [illegible] (X-[illegible]), with one [illegible] the close of the period, with [illegible] to secure the tank trail as far [illegible] (X-[illegible]) the right rear flank, the 10th Div[illegible] contained [illegible] port of the [illegible] River and left [illegible] Trieste [illegible].

2. [illegible] by the rapid 20-mile adv[illegible] at [illegible] (X-[illegible]), the 10th [illegible] attack to the South at [illegible], blown bridges, shells and [illegible] ing South from the [illegible] passed through [illegible] (X-[illegible]) and [illegible] the right column, veering [illegible] [illegible] (X-[illegible]). By 17[illegible] this same column [illegible] (X-[illegible]) where it was shooting [illegible] a retreating enemy column. [illegible] the left column had reached [illegible] (X-[illegible]) where it caught [illegible] [illegible] every column and found [illegible] across the [illegible] [illegible] blown. Progress slowed [illegible] from elements [illegible] (X-[illegible]). Following [illegible] on the left [illegible] was, [illegible], with the 70th Div on [illegible] [illegible] S, [illegible] Brigade [illegible] (X-[illegible]), [illegible] (X-[illegible]), [illegible] (X-[illegible]) and [illegible] against [illegible] of road blocks and extensive [illegible] (X-[illegible]) by 1730. Late in the evening [illegible]. After repulsing several minor [illegible] (S-[illegible]) area, the "A" follo[illegible] right shoulder [illegible] assault.

R/. Annex No. 1.

[illegible]

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advancing through LENNINGEN (X-2896), GUTENBERG (X-3294) and DONNSTETTEN to reach FELDSTETTEN (X-4083) by the end of the period. In view of the rapid progress throughout the day, the Corps Commander verbally directed the Division Commander to try to seize bridges at ERINGEN and after crossing the DANUBE to press the advance Southeast on the axis LAUTERN (X-5961) - ILLERTISSEN (X-7661) with the intention of enveloping ULM (X-6730) 83/.

3. The 44th Division continued to guard the Corps left flank and also pushed troops South behind the rapid advance of the armored columns toward the DANUBE. Except for the persistent opposition in the AUFHAUSEN (S-495005)-RISLINGEN (S-5504) area, where two battalions of the 1212 GR (189 VG Div), a battalion of the 305 GR (198 VG Div) and Battle Groups RITTER and LANG were identified in counterattacks and persistent infiltration attempts, resistance was spotty and limited to road blocks, AT and AP mines, road craters and small arms fire. Protecting the left flank, the bulk of the 114th Inf had moved South to DONNDORF during the day while one battalion moved into the RISLINGEN area to assist the 324th Inf in clearing the town. The 324th was heavily engaged in the BAD UBERKINGEN - TURKHEIM - RISLINGEN area throughout the period, but finally cleared those towns, capturing most of the division's 442 prisoners. One battalion attacked South from HAUSEN and after overcoming stubborn small arms resistance in AUFHAUSEN (S-459005) moved rapidly South through [illegible]EN, MERKLINGEN and MACHTOLSHEIM, in the wake of the 10th Armd Division thrust, to reach X-4783. On the Division right flank, the 71st Inf advanced South with all three battalions as far as SONTHEIM and UNTERROTH (X-615945) against no more than passive resistance until a short fire fight developed as BOTTINGEN (X-3401) was cleared late in the period. As the period closed, one battalion was moving Southeast by motor to ERINGEN in compliance with the Corps Commander's verbal directive to assist the advance of the armor by making an assault crossing of the DANUBE in that area 84/.

4. The 10th Division continued to roll South and Southwest with two regiments abreast in its new zone without meeting more than passive resistance except on the right flank where stiff small arms resistance developed in [illegible]TEN (S-1304) and in the woods to the East of the town. On the left, the 410th Inf encountered no organic resistance as it drove Southwest from the [illegible]ERINGEN area down through [illegible]HEIM, HISSINGEN, HEIDLINGEN to reach a general line [illegible]HEIM (X-2397) - [illegible]EN (X-2793) - [illegible] (X-215900) - [illegible] by the end of the period. Two battalions of the 411th starting from [illegible], attacked South to clear out scattered pockets in [illegible]BACH and HOCHDORF early in the morning and then rolled rapidly Southwest across the Autobahn to [illegible] (S-235065) where a sharp fire fight developed and some light artillery was encountered. [illegible] developed [illegible] and the woods to the East until late in the period the town was cleared and forward elements had continued Southwest to [illegible] (S-1600) and [illegible] (S-200005). The bulk of the approximate 1000 prisoners taken by the division came from this area and were from the 47, 246 and 559 VG Divisions as well as from miscellaneous units and Volkssturm. The 409th Inf (-) closed in the [illegible] area near the end of the day 85/.

5. The 100th Division on the Corps right flank continued the attack to clear out the pocket bounded by the [illegible] River North and East of [illegible] and in the course of the day picked up more than 7000 prisoners from the 47, 246, 559 and 716 VG and 191 Inf Divisions. On the left, the 399th Inf

83/. [illegible], 22 Apr (Goppingen CP) - Entries #2, 6, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33, 1, 58, 60 and 68; [illegible], 23 Apr - Entry 17.

84/. [illegible], 22 Apr (Heidenheim CP) - Entry #19; (Goppingen CP) - Entries 3, 4, 23, 35, 70 and 72; [illegible], 23 Apr - Entries #7, 10 and 31.

85/. [illegible], 22 Apr (Goppingen CP) - Entries #7, 9, 10, 14 and 33; [illegible], Entries #1 and 32.

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attacked Southeast from the [illegible] - [illegible] area to reach the river between [illegible] (S-2[illegible]) and [illegible] (S-2[illegible]) after several sharp small arms fire fights in [illegible] (S-2[illegible]). Strong combat patrols secured this heavily wooded mountainous area to clear out pockets and the day's operations netted 1000 prisoners. In the center, the 399th Inf pushed Southeast and moped up its zone to the NECKAR in the [illegible] (S-13[illegible]) - [illegible] (S-1417) area. On the right, the 398th Inf moped up [illegible] and that part of [illegible] east of the NECKAR while the attached 117th Cav Rcn Sqn screened the flank along the river from [illegible] (S-11[illegible]) to [illegible] (S-[illegible]) 36/.

6. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 13[illegible] of this date was received, outlining the new VI Corps boundaries. The western boundary (adjacent to II French Corps) ran along the [illegible] River from STUTTGART to [illegible] (X-[illegible]), thence South to [illegible] (X-[illegible]) - [illegible] (X-[illegible]) - [illegible] (X-[illegible]) [illegible] (X-1043) (all to First French Army); the eastern boundary (adjacent to XII Corps) ran from [illegible] (S-[illegible]) through [illegible] (X-[illegible]), [illegible] (X-6689), [illegible] (X-[illegible]), [illegible] (X-[illegible]), [illegible] (X-[illegible]), all to VI Corps 37/.

7. VI Corps Operations Instruction No. 32 was issued at 1200B, generally directing: (a) the 10th Armd Division to continue attack to seize [illegible] (X-[illegible]) and secure crossings of the DANUBE in that area, prepared to continue the advance to the Southeast or Northeast in conjunction with the 44th Division and capture [illegible] (X-[illegible]); (b) the 44th Division to follow closely the advance of the 10th Armd Division, protect DANUBE crossings as seized, prepared to continue attack to the Southeast or Northeast in conjunction with the 10th Armd Division and capture [illegible]; (c) the 103d Division to continue advance in zone and protect VI Corps right flank and rear, South of [illegible] (S-2[illegible]); (d) the 100th Division to continue mopping-up operations in the pocket East of STUTTGART and North of the NECKAR River, gain contact with First French Army elements Southeast of STUTTGART, and then continue advance to the Southeast and protect Corps left (E) flank; (e) the attachment of Hq & Hq Btry 17th FA Bn and 741st FA Bn to VI Corps Arty on arrival; (f) the relief of the 69th Armd FA Bn from attachment to the 103d Division and its subsequent attachment to the 44th Division 38/.

8. VI Corps Command Post closed at [illegible] (S-3[illegible]) and opened at [illegible] (S-1412) at 0930B.

9. XII TAC flew three missions of 36 sorties in close support of VI Corps during the day, destroying one locomotive and fifteen ammunition cars, all of which exploded, at X-678155 and another locomotive and five cars at X-[illegible] as well as numerous hostile MT. No hostile planes appeared over the Corps area during the period.

23 April

1. The principal resistance during 23 April appeared on the Corps right flank on the front of the 103d Division where strong elements of the 47 VG Division (estimated at five battalions) resisted stubbornly in the [illegible] - [illegible] area, attempting to keep open an escape route to the Southeast for the remaining enemy forces pocketed Southeast of STUTTGART. However, by evening this resistance had been broken and 103d elements were converging on

36/. WRJ, 22 Apr (Goppingen CP) - Entries #13 and 48; WRJ, 23 Apr - Entries # 11 and 12.

37/. Annex No. 9.

38/. Annex No. 8.

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URACH from the North, Northwest and West. Meanwhile to the South, the 10th [illegible] and two regiments of the 24th Division had closed on the DAEGU [illegible] between HUNGNAMNIDONG (X-4161) and URACH (X-272), seizing several bridges intact. As the period closed a two-battalion bridgehead over the [illegible] had been established in the [illegible] area by elements of these two divisions and the advance was proceeding virtually unopposed to the Southeast beyond [illegible] (X-[illegible]). In the Corps right rear, the 100th Division continued mopping up isolated pockets of enemy in the woods Northeast of the NAKDAN River, in the [illegible] area, prepared to pass to Army control and take over police of [illegible].

2. After the bulk of the 10th [illegible] Division had closed [illegible] during the day, some armored elements crossed the river — at [illegible] (X-[illegible]), at URACH (X-272) and at [illegible], South of [illegible] — during the evening, prepared to advance East on the [illegible] - [illegible] axis, with one column aimed Northeast along the north bank towards [illegible] in accordance with a verbal directive of the Corps Commander. Attacking both from the bridgehead area on the left flank, [illegible] encountered the heaviest resistance of the day, [illegible] other passive resistance, and then turned East along the [illegible] and by 1000 had halted [illegible] at [illegible], South of [illegible]. While [illegible] patrolled the [illegible] in the [illegible] area, elements [illegible] were ordered at [illegible] KIDAN (X-4161) and [illegible] (X-[illegible]), one column crossing [illegible] just before midnight. [illegible] screening the left flank, [illegible] Corps could be cleared [illegible], supply a tremendous [illegible] enlargement, and then gathered a [illegible] of the town at [illegible], [illegible] and [illegible] over the [illegible] river until [illegible] through by the [illegible] was closing up from the rear. After being delayed [illegible] by [illegible] road blocks, CP [illegible] (X-[illegible]) by early evening, just before midnight one column [illegible] - [illegible] (X-[illegible]) to [illegible] (X-[illegible]).

[illegible] flank [illegible]

[illegible] A-1 - [illegible]

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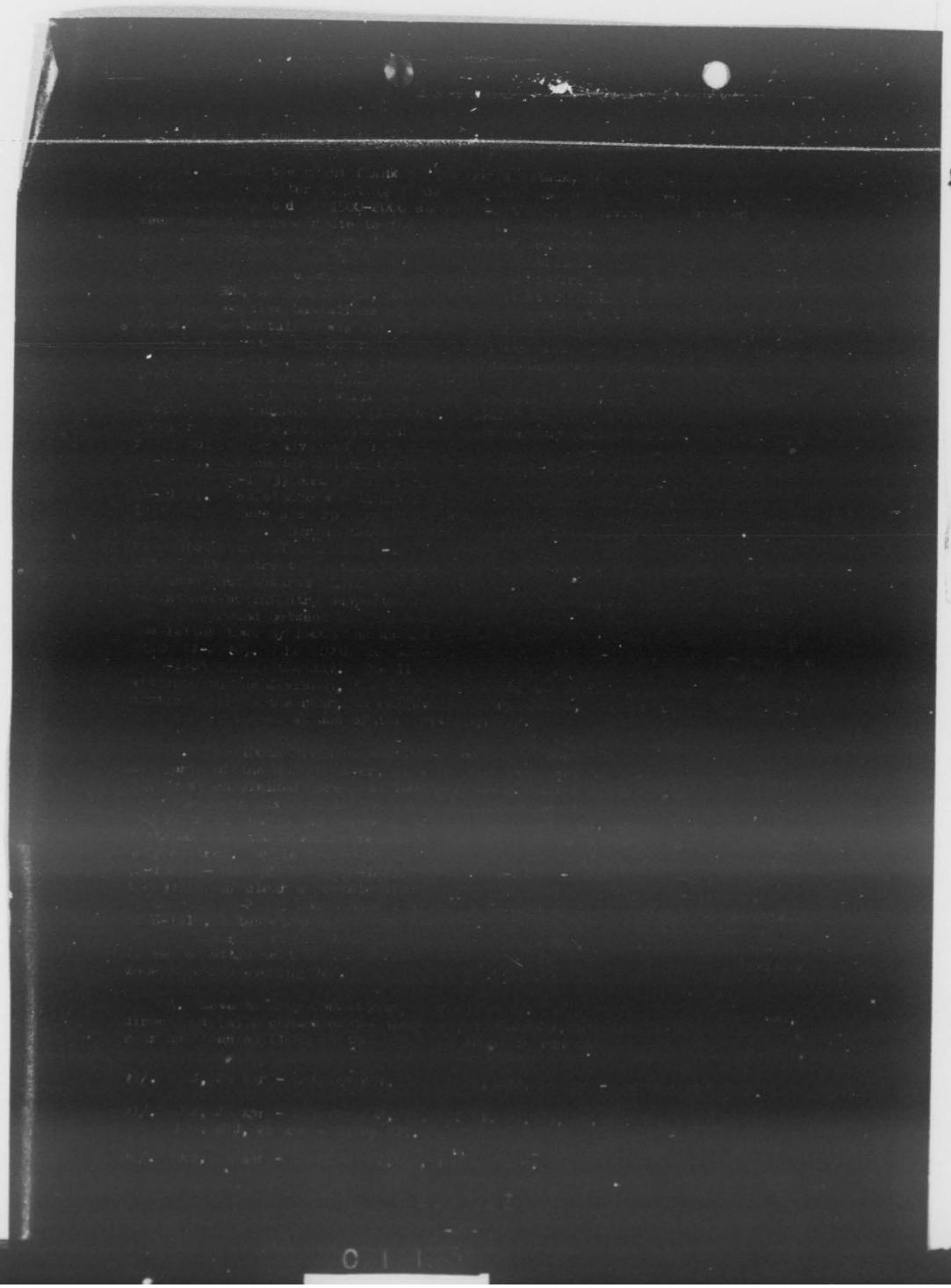

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DETTINGEN (X-1993), MUNSINGEN (X-3031), [illegible] (X-4766), REINSTETTEN (X-6018), KEMPTEN (X-9306 and HOFEN (D-2272)); and (b) the VI Corps to relieve First French Army elements in the STUTTGART area with the 100th Division and to advance rapidly in zone to the GERMAN - AUSTRIAN border between [illegible] (D-2390) and [illegible] (D-6677) 93/.

7. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 1[illegible]2 of this date was received, directing: (a) that the boundary change outlined in O.I. No. 139 would be effective at 250001B April; (b) the attachment to VI Corps of the 101st Airborne Division (with 813th TD Bn) on its arrival in the [illegible] (S-2[illegible]90) area, and (c) the relief of the 100th Division from attachment to VI Corps and its return to Army control in the [illegible] area 94/.

8. General cloudiness and light rain throughout the period limited XII TAC's close air support to one mission of twelve sorties which strafed hostile troop concentrations in [illegible] (X-2[illegible]) with good results. There was no enemy air activity during the period.

24 April

1. While the enemy continued his rapid withdrawal during 24 April, resistance remained light and scattered, except in the city of ULM which was cleared as far South as the [illegible] by elements of the 10th Armd and [illegible]th Inf Divisions only after some bitter small arms fighting. South of the [illegible], the bridgehead at [illegible] was expanded and the 10th Armd and [illegible] Division elements rolled rapidly Southeast against negligible opposition to reach the [illegible] River between [illegible] (X-7165) and [illegible] (X-7359) by noon, halting there for the rest of the period awaiting the completion of bridging operations. On the right flank the 10[illegible] Division continued to mop up the heavy woods in sector, East of the [illegible] and North of the [illegible] - [illegible] line, preparing to move over to the Corps left flank South of [illegible] to continue the advance to the Southeast the next day.

2. After the brief holdup of the previous day, the 10th Armd Division [illegible] ahead to the East on 24 April, [illegible] crossing the [illegible] in the [illegible] area and heading on the [illegible] - [illegible] axis had reached the [illegible], while one column headed Northeast toward [illegible] in conjunction [illegible] North of the river by the end of the [illegible]. On the left flank, [illegible] (X-[illegible]) [illegible] (X-[illegible]), on the outskirts of [illegible]. Moderate artillery and extensive minefields delayed the advance but [illegible] scattered but bitter small arms fighting, [illegible] was cleared of enemy North of [illegible] and all roads leading to the North and Northeast blocked. [illegible] resistance was encountered [illegible] of the [illegible] (X-[illegible]), [illegible] (X-[illegible]), [illegible] (X-[illegible]) [illegible] noon. [illegible] [illegible] (X-[illegible]) [illegible], advanced [illegible] [illegible] similar [illegible] opposition [illegible] the [illegible] column rolled [illegible] (X-[illegible]) [illegible] continued on through [illegible] (X-[illegible])

93/. Annex No. [illegible]

94/. Annex No. [illegible]

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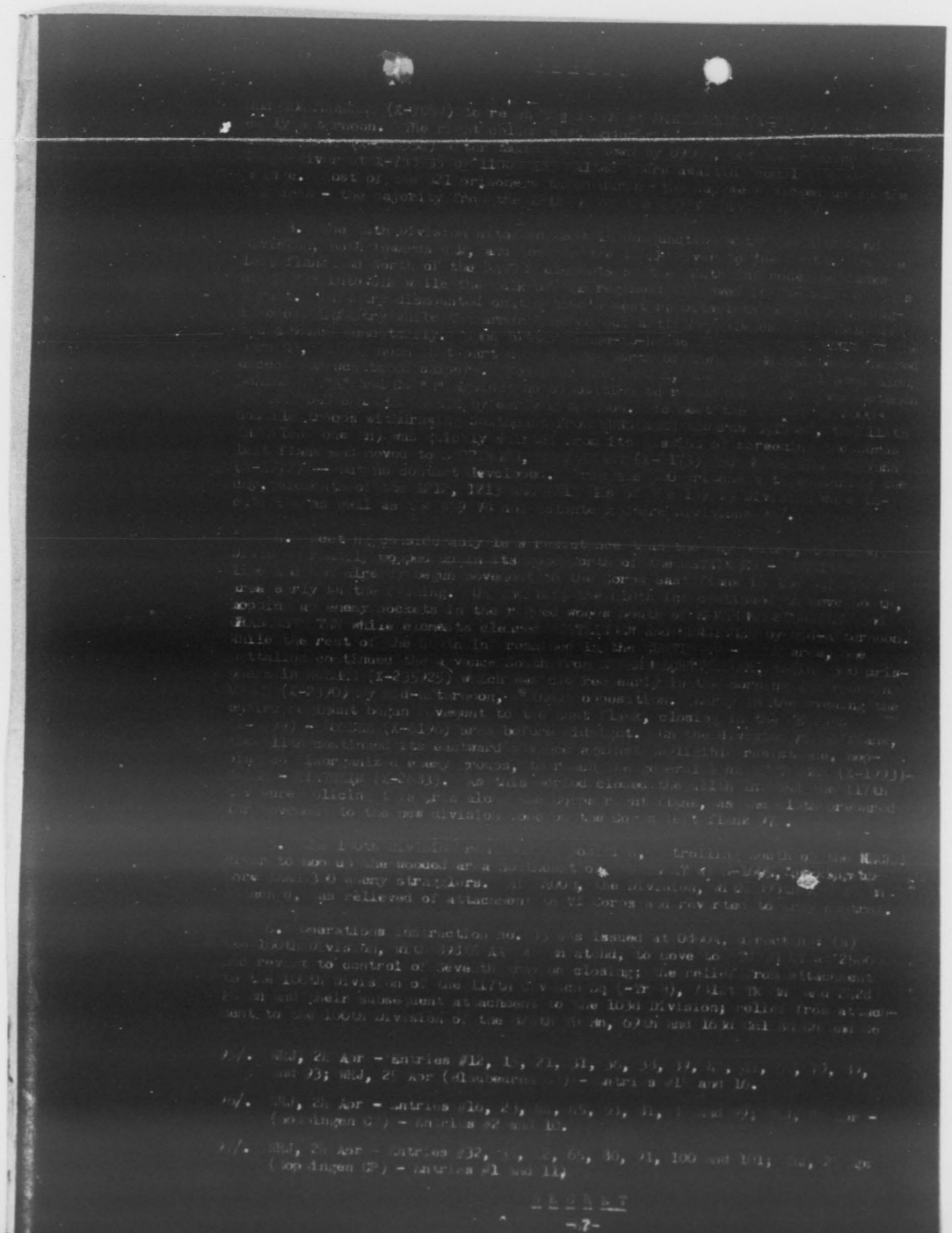

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C 83d Cml Mort Bn and their return to Corps control; (b) the 103d Division to continue present mission to line DE[illegible] - MUNSINGEN with minimum forces and assemble the remainder of the Division in the GEISLINGEN area to relieve elements of the 44th Division and attack Southeast, protecting the Corps left flank; (c) the 44th Division to advance rapidly on ULM from present positions with not less than one RCT and to protect the Corps right (W) flank South of MUNSINGEN; (d) the 10th Armd Division to attack on the direction LAUPHEIM - ULM, advance rapidly on ULM from present positions North of DANUBE River with one Combat Command and after capture of ULM to be prepared for rapid advance to the Southeast; (e) the 101st Airborne Division to assemble in the [illegible] - GEISLINGEN area, prepared for employment to the Southeast 98/.

25 April

1. Resistance increased noticeably during 25 April as the enemy made a determined effort to prevent expansion of the bridgeheads across the ILLER River, South of ULM, by launching a counterattack of battalion size against the bridgehead at X-7366 and continually harassing bridging operations at that point with concentrations of 88mm and 105mm artillery fire. However, this resistance was eliminated by mid-afternoon, troops of the 44th Division completing the clearing of ULM, North of the DANUBE and crossing the river to clear the southern part of the city, while 10th Armd Division elements pushed South from their DIETENHEIM bridgehead as far as [illegible] (X-7[illegible]) before the close of the period. Meanwhile, after crossing the Corps sector from the right flank to the left, the 103d Division again attacked Southeast and cleared the north bank of the DANUBE between the 70 and 80 Eastings against negligible resistance.

2. Throughout most of 25 April the main body of the 10th Armd Division remained in its positions of the previous evening, halted along the west bank of the ILLER River until bridges could be constructed, but by late afternoon the advance had been continued. After the 36th Engr C[illegible] had completed a Class 40, 168-foot floating treadway over the ILLER River [illegible] began movement over the river at 1[illegible] and had pushed South [illegible] (X-7655) within an hour and then continued against small arms fire until stopped at 1830[illegible] on the northern outskirts of [illegible] (X-7[illegible]) where they encountered intense small arms, [illegible] and panzerfaust fire from well dug-in [illegible]. Plans for CC "A" to cross the ILLER at [illegible] and attack North were [illegible] when hostile artillery concentrations in that area hampered bridging operations. However, elements of CC "A" crossed at DIEDERHEIM, to the south, late in the afternoon, and attacked North to clear [illegible] (X-7367) and push ahead to X-7369 by the close of the period. The remainder of CC "A" assisted the 24th Inf in clearing ULM, while CC "R" moved to DIEDERHEIM, preparing to follow CC "A" to the South. The 90th [illegible] moved to the [illegible] - [illegible] area to [illegible] by-passed pockets [illegible] several sharp fire fights in the [illegible] (X-[illegible]) - [illegible] (X-[illegible]) [illegible] enemy elements trying to escape to the Southeast around the division's [illegible] 99/.

3. The 103d Division completely closed in the left of the Corps zone, and their subsequent attack to the Southeast [illegible] to the [illegible] River. On the left, the 409th Inf moved rapidly Southeast from the [illegible] - [illegible] (X-[illegible]) - [illegible] (X-[illegible]) area, through [illegible] (X-[illegible]), GOTTINGEN (X-7[illegible]) and ELCHINGEN (X-7[illegible]). Enemy activity was negligible and

98/. [illegible]

99/. [illegible] (Blaubeuren C[illegible]) - [illegible]

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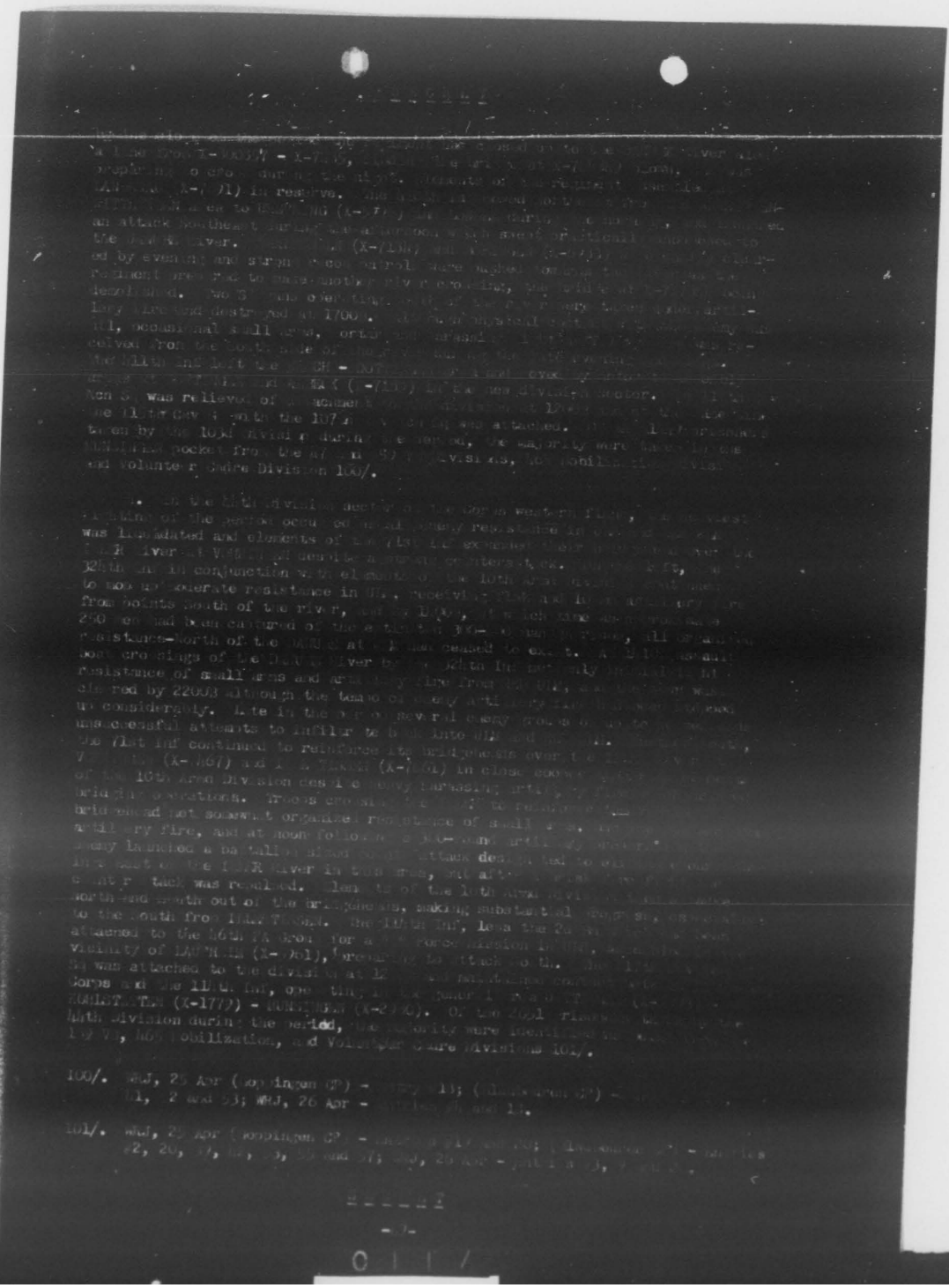

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5. Three missions of 33 sorties were flown by XII TAC in close support of VI Corps operations during the period. Enemy strongpoints at ATTENHOFFEN (X-7972) and HOCHLHOFFEN (X-7971) were bombed and strafed as well as a concentration of 5000 enemy troops in the woods at X-975300 and hostile artillery in the woods at X-7572 which had been hampering bridging operations in ILLERRIDEN. Thirty-eight 500-lb bombs and twenty 120-lb bombs were dropped in the target areas and although results were generally unobserved fifty buildings were known to be damaged, 43 destroyed and numerous fires started. In addition to this air support, C-47s landed 1100 tons of supplies — 100,000 rations and 200,000 gallons of gas — at the GOPPINGEN Airport to alleviate the supply situation, made critical by the speed of the advance. Once again there were no hostile planes over the Corps area.

6. Operations Instruction No. 84 was issued at 1500B, directing generally: (a) the 44th Division to continue advance Southeast to seize the MEMMINGEN (X-8234) area in zone and to protect the Corps right flank; (b) the 103d Division to continue advance to the Southeast to seize the MINDELHEIM (Y-0542) - LANDSBERG (Y-3043) area in zone and protect the Corps left flank; (c) the 10th Armd Division to continue Advance Southeast to seize the road nets MEMMINGEN - MINDELHEIM - LANDSBERG and block the AUGSBURG (Y-3480) - KAUFBEUREN (Y-1624) railroad at Y-2242, prepared to continue to the Southeast; (d) VI Corps Arty to move Hq & Hq Btry 17th FA Gp and 741st FA Bn to the XXI Corps area, units to be relieved of attachment on arrival, and (e) numerous attachments and detachments of small units within VI Corps 102/.

7. The VI Corps Command Post closed at GOPPINGEN and opened in BLAUBEUREN (X-9181) at 0920B.

26 April

1. Along the Corps front during 26 April the enemy manifested his intentions of continuing his hasty withdrawal to the South and East by offering only intermittent artillery fire and weakly-manned pseudo-strong points in defense against our attack throughout most of the zone. Resistance was strongest on the right flank where columns of the 10th Armd Division had to clean out strong-points in towns along the highway before accomplishing their ten-mile advance from KRUMBACH to MEMMINGEN, but elsewhere on the Corps front armored columns rolled on unhindered to make gains of twenty to thirty miles to the Southeast and East to seize MINDELHEIM (Y-0542) and push recon as far as TURKHEIM (Y-1444). While the 44th Division followed along in the wake of this armored thrust to clean up scattered pockets and enemy stragglers, the 103d pushed across the DANUBE on the left flank and advanced about ten miles against negligible resistance to a general line ASCH (X-8309) - AHSENHORN (X-7970). The VI Corps Prisoner of War totals continued to mount, 1700 enemy stragglers being picked up — from the 47 and 189 Vo and the 405 Bob Divisions.

2. Major progress in the 10th Armd Division attack was made by CC "A", while one column proceeded North from the DILLINGEN bridgehead to assist the 103d Inf in clearing the remnants of resistance in NEU ULM (X-6779), the main body struck Southeast against no active resistance to reach HASTENBEUREN (X-3752) by 1900B. Continuing Southeast, through WEITRIED (X-6852), KLOSTERBEURAN (X-4747) and LAUBEN (X-9043), by 1530B leading tanks were entering ERKHEIM (X-7941) where the attack was turned East towards MINDELHEIM (Y-0542) which was occupied by 1930B. Meanwhile, CC "B" moved out of assembly areas at DONDORF, crossed the DANUBE at ULLERRIDEN and followed the route of CC "A" as far South as HASTENBEUREN where the columns veered East to reach MINDELHEIM (Y-0950) from where recon was pushed Southeast to bridge sites over the WERTACH River at TURKHEIM (Y-1444),

103/. Annex No.

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preparatory to continuing the advance the next day to LANDSBERG (Y-3444) in compliance with verbal orders of the Corps Commander. On the right flank, CC "B", moving South from KELLMUNZ along the highway parallel to and [illegible] of the [illegible] River, encountered stubborn resistance along its route. After overcoming the intense small arms, automatic weapons and panzerfaust fire from entrenched infantry who had stopped their advance in the wooded area South of the railroad in KELLMUNZ the previous evening, these columns continued slowly South. Stubborn resistance was encountered in PLESS (X-7946), FELLHEIM (X-7944) and [illegible] (X-8137) where enemy strongpoints showered small arms, automatic weapons, mortar and 88mm fire and harassing interdictory medium caliber artillery fire punctuated the main road, but by 1615B the tanks had rolled ahead to capture MEMMINGEN and liberate 3336 Allied Prisoners of War, including 506 American soldiers from a PW Camp, just Southwest of the city 103/.

3. The 44th Division encountered only minor resistance as it followed the armored columns to the South. On the left, the 71st Inf quickly cleared up isolated pockets of enemy and reached the general line [illegible] - [illegible] (X-9133) by the close of the period. Following along behind the right flank of the armored advance, the 114th Inf picked up numerous stragglers and eliminated the small pockets of resistance which had been by-passed by CC "B" to reach MEMMINGEN and secure the city by 1700B. Elements of this RCT advancing West of the ILLER River were temporarily delayed at KIRCHDORF (X-7744) by small arms and automatic weapons fire before they could continue to the South. After eliminating the remnants of opposition in NEU ULM, the 324th Inf was moving South to assemble in HEIMERTINGEN (X-8040) and MEMMINGEN toward the close of the period 104/.

4. On the Corps left flank and to the rear of the other divisions, the 103d Division pushed all three regiments across the DANUBE, Northeast of ULM. Leading the way, the 409th Inf attached South from JUNGINGEN (X-6635) and established a bridgehead at dawn over the swift-flowing DANUBE at X-744849 against no more than sporadic small arms fire. By noon other elements of the 409th had crossed the river on the bridge erected during the morning and after overcoming moderate small arms resistance at STRASS (X-7732) swept Southeast virtually unopposed, through KISSENDORF (X-8280), AUTENRIED (X-8677) and WALDSTETTEN (X-8975) to reach ELLZEE (X-9174), recon elements pushing South to WATTENWEILER (X-9272). On the right flank, the 410th Inf met only small and scattered pockets of small arms and automatic weapons resistance as it pushed Southeast from the DANUBE to reach a line ASCH (X-8369) - WEISZENHORN (X-7970). Closing up from the rear, the 411th Inf advanced to the DANUBE from GOTTINGEN (X-7338), crossed the 409th Inf bridge at LEIBI (X-7584) and assembled in ECHLISHAUSEN (X-8183) as Division Reserve 105/.

5. At 2000B Corps issued Operations Instruction No. 85 directing: (a) the 10th Armd Division to advance rapidly and cut the road and rail net in the vicinity of LANDSBERG (Y-3443), continue the advance Southeast on a broad front to the line FUSSEN (D-2389) - SAULDRUB (D-4601) - RIEDHAUSEN (D-6003) and to extend strong reconnaissance to REUTTE (D-2481), PARTENKIRCHEN (D-5383) and KLAIS (D-6481) as well as be prepared to extend reconnaissance to INNSBRUCK (D-7759); (b) the 44th Division to continue to advance Southeast, pass through elements of the 10th Armd Division on line FUSSEN - BUCHING (D-3195), seize initial Corps objective in zone and be prepared to continue advance to the Southeast, to block road nets in the vicinity of REUTTE, to protect the Corps right flank and maintain physical contact with II French Corps; (c) the 103d Division

103/. WRJ, 26 Apr - Entries #30, 36, 38, 41, 44, 55, 65, 74, 75 and 92.

104/. WRJ, 26 Apr - Entries #57, 62, 76 and 84.

105/. WRJ, 26 Apr - Entries #10, 21, 35, 77 and 95.

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to continue to advance Southeast, pass through elements of the 10th Armd Division on the line BUCHING - SAULGRUB - RIEDHAUSEN, seize initial Corps objective in zone and be prepared to continue advance to the Southeast, to block road nets in the vicinity of PARTENKIRCHEN and KLAIS, to protect the Corps left flank and maintain physical contact with the XXI Corps on the left 106/.

6. Three missions of 32 sorties were flown in close support of Corps. Motor transports and gun positions were strafed and bombed with excellent results. A total of sixteen 500-lb bombs and thirty 120-lb bombs were dropped on targets with the following results: seventeen motor transports were destroyed, seven horse-drawn vehicles destroyed, seven gun positions destroyed and five damaged, nine half tracks destroyed, four buildings destroyed, three damaged and extensive fires started.

27 April

1. Again encountering only negligible resistance, VI Corps rolled 20-30 miles to the Southeast during 27 April, as the 10th Armd Division continued to spearhead the attack, followed closely by the 103d and 44th Divisions on the left and right, respectively. As armored columns roamed to the South and Southeast at will to seize such towns as LANDSBERG (Y-3443), SCHONGAU (Y-3617), MARKT OBERDORF (Y-1613) and KEMPTEN (Y-9305), infantrymen of the other two divisions followed closely in their tracks to eliminate small and disorganized pockets of enemy who offered no more than feeble resistance. During this whirlwind advance VI Corps set a new record for prisoners taken in one day, seizing 11,040 (including 3500 in hospitals) from the 47, 189, 257, 559 VG and the 465 Mob Divisions.

2. On the left of the 10th Armd Division attack, CC "R" jumped off from TURKHEIM and had secured intact a bridge over the WERTACH River at Y-166421 before dawn. Continuing on to the East, this column had cut the railroad at BUCHLOE (Y-2342) by noon and then sped rapidly through HOLZHAUSEN (Y-2643) to seize the objective, LANDSBERG, before the end of the period. In the center, CC "A" attacked Southeast from the MINDELHEIM area and had advanced rapidly through MINDELAU (Y-0839) and DORSCHHAUSEN (Y-1039) to capture BAD WORISHOFEN (Y-1039) in the morning. Continuing to the South along the main highway, this column seized intact bridges over the WERTACH River at Y-140293, South of PFORZEN, and at Y-163244 in KAUFBEUREN where they turned Northeast to occupy HELMISHOFEN (Y-2526). Swinging South, this column passed through FRANKENHOFEN (Y-2625) and after eliminating light small arms and bazooka fire at Y-256246 turned Southeast through SCHWABSOIEN (Y-3119) to reach SCHONGAU (Y-3617), having covered thirty miles in the drive. On the right, CC "B" attacked Southeast in a two-pronged drive from UNTER WESTERHEIM and MEMMINGEN. Meeting only one small pocket of resistance, at Y-005297, the left column lunged 25 miles to the Southeast, passing through OBER GUNZBURG (Y-0119) to reach MARKT OBERDORF (Y-1613). The other column pushing South from MEMMINGEN, quickly overcase light small arms resistance at WORINGEN (Y-8427) and then rolled through GRONENBACH (Y-8522) and DISTMANNSRIED (Y-9115) to reach KEMPTEN (Y-9305) 107/.

3. After encountering moderate and sporadic small arms fire early in the period, the 103d Division followed closely behind the armored columns on the left of the Corps sector, taking more than 2000 prisoners from the 189 VG and the 465

106/. Annex No. 3

107/. ~~RJ~~, 27 Apr - Entries #24, 32, 33, and 41 (Blaubeuren CP) and #4, 11 and 24 (Babenhausen CP).

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Mob Divisions. The advance of the 409th Inf was slowed during the morning as elements cut off and destroyed an enemy supply column at BERG (Y-0465), but late in the period, the entire regiment was enroute to SCHONGAU by motorized columns. The 410th Inf flushed hostile troops of the 189 GR from their dug-in positions in the woods along the line X-3171 - X-3169, East of WEISZENHORN and then moved by motor convoy to KAUFBEUREN. Continuing to follow the advance of CC "A", troops of the 410th dismounted to clear up the small arms and panzerfaust resistance encountered South of FRANKENHOFEN and then followed East to SCHONGAU. On the left flank the 411th followed columns of CC "R", without meeting any opposition and by the close of the period leading elements had occupied the western half of LANDSBERG 108/.

4. The two regiments of the 44th Division following in the path of CC "B" encountered negligible resistance throughout the period as they picked up 3500 willing prisoners from the 47, 257 and 559 VG Divisions. On the left the 71st Inf moved South from positions along the MEMMINGEN - MINDELHEIM road to OBER GUNZBURG (Y-0120) and FRIESENRIED (Y-0923) without meeting any opposition enroute. On the right the 114th Inf encountered scattered and isolated automatic weapons and small arms fire before reaching KEMPTEN by the close of the period. To the rear in Division Reserve, the 324th closed into the MEMMINGEN - HEIMERTINGEN area 109/.

5. The movement of the 101st Airborne Division into the Corps area began, the 502d Prcht Inf closing in AM MOTTEN (X-3236), just North of MEMMINGEN, at 1700B while the Division Advance CP opened at STADTHEIM (X-3133).

6. Enemy air activity increased in tempo as 6 Me-109's flew over LANDSBERG. Although obviously on a reconnaissance flight one of the planes shot down a friendly Cub Air OP and strafed the town of SONTHEIM (X-9537). Four Me-109's strafed the vicinity of Y-0352 and 1700B inflicting some personnel casualties.

7. The VI Corps Command Post closed in BLAUBEUREN (X-5131) and opened in [illegible] (X-3752) at 1630B.

23 April

1. VI Corps' sparkling advance continued during 23 April, forward elements crossing the Austrian border and contacting the approaches of the so-called National Redoubt Area. All three divisions of the Corps advanced rapidly to the South in twenty to twenty-five mile drives, encountering little or no opposition and by the end of the period columns of both the 10th Armored and the 44th Infantry Divisions had crossed into Austria in the vicinity of VILS (-1767). However, the enemy indicated his intention of making a firmer stand here as troops entrenched on the wooded heights along the [illegible] - VILS - PUSSEN line bitterly resisted any continued advance, and at the close of the period the advance had slowed down in the general area SCHONGAU - PUSSEN - REUTTE. Enemy losses in supplies and equipment were heavy throughout the period and a total of 20,153 prisoners (10,000 in hospitals) were captured from the 47, 257 and 559 VG and the 405 Mob Divisions to swell the Corps total to 72,946 since 1 April.

2. The 10th Armd Division continued to roll South practically unopposed. While elements of CC "A" remained in [illegible] awaiting the construction of a bridge across the LECH River, other columns drove Southwest past burning and

103/. G-3 Jnl, 27 Apr - entries 23 and 35 (Blaubeuren CP), and 47 and 9 (Krumbach CP).

109/. G-3 Jnl, 27 Apr - entries 7, 17 and 39 (Blaubeuren CP) and 3, 5, 6, 10 and 21 (Babenhausen CP).

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disorganized enemy columns to reach [illegible] (Y-2904) where [illegible] across the LECH prevented further advance, although active reconnaissance for intact bridges was made along the river bank. Meanwhile tanks of [illegible] plunged South twenty miles along the main [illegible] unopposed to FUSSEN (D-2239). Other elements of CC "B" veered Southwest from KEMPTEN and drove twenty-five miles past charred and burning enemy vehicles through [illegible] (D-6979), [illegible] (D-1291) and across the Austrian border to reach the mountainous forest region South of FUSSEN where entrenched enemy troops were making a determined effort to halt the advance. Leading elements of CC "B" attempting to seize the bridge at D-203371, South of FUSSEN, met [illegible] resistance from an estimated squad of infantry employing small arms and [illegible] fire. The balance of [illegible] initiated an active reconnaissance on the banks of the LECH along the general axis BERG (D-1291) - VILS (D-1737) - [illegible] (D-2433). CC "B" followed the route of CC "A" to SCHONGAU and then veered Northwest and assembled at [illegible] (Y-3218) by late afternoon. During the period the division captured extensive enemy supplies and equipment including a radio station, an armored train, sixty four airplanes, a Mark IV Tank, thirty-nine trucks and three [illegible] guns. In addition to 1131 prisoners from the [illegible], 257, 559 VG and the 407 Mob Divisions 110/.

3. In the sector of the 103d Division on the left flank, the [illegible] Inf assembled in LANDSBERG and blocked all approaches to the town. The [illegible] Inf attacked to the Southwest from SCHONGAU and encountered no resistance enroute to LECHSBRUCK (Y-2904) but was delayed South of the town by blown bridges over the LECH River. Occupying SCHONGAU, the 409th Inf met similar difficulty in finding an intact bridge over the LECH, but finally secured a crossing site at Y-372165 and was preparing to attack South from that area the next morning. During the period, the Division picked up 5000 prisoners - from the [illegible], 257 and 559 VG and the 407 Mob Divisions 111/.

4. The 44th Division continued its rapid advance to the South without meeting any serious resistance until the FUSSEN area was reached. On the left flank, the 71st Inf jumped off to the South from the line OBERGENSBERG - [illegible], clearing small pockets of resistance which had been by-passed by columns of CC "B". Advancing unopposed to FUSSEN, elements of this [illegible] met stiff small arms, automatic weapons and artillery fire from troops of the 559 VG Division entrenched in the dense woods on the high ground South of FUSSEN. A blown bridge across the LECH at FUSSEN caused the columns to maneuver to the Southwest over steep and densely-wooded terrain to cross the Austrian border into VILS (D-1737). The 114th Inf in the central zone made similarly rapid progress to the South from KEMPTEN, reaching BERG (D-1291) and STEINBACH (D-1289), just North of the border before meeting any resistance. On the right flank the 324th Inf moved South-East from the [illegible] - HEIMERTINGEN area against only small arms fire to reach the line OY (D-0397) - [illegible] (D-0192), discarding an estimated company of enemy infantry in the latter town at the close of the period. More than 4000 prisoners were taken during the day - from the 47, 257 and 559 VG and the 407 Mob Divisions 112/.

5. Movement of the 101st Airborne Division continued, the 506th Prcht Inf closing in the vicinity of LANDSBERG (D-[illegible]) while the Division [illegible] in [illegible].

6. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 145 of this date was received, directing VI Corps to secure objective outlined in S.I. No. 139 - between FUSSEN (D-2239), ETTAL (D-5290), MITTENWALD (D-6579) and REUTTE (D-2431) - and continue the attack in zone with utmost speed through all possible avenues

110/. WRJ, 28 Apr - Entries #17, 31 and 52 (Babenhausen CP) and [illegible] and 11 (Kaufbeuren CP).

111/. WRJ, 28 Apr - Entries #13 and 17 (Babenhausen CP) and #63 and 3[illegible] (Kaufbeuren CP).

112/. WRJ, 28 Apr - Entries #9 and 36 (Babenhausen CP) and #5, 11, 17 and 35 (Kaufbeuren CP).

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of approach to the Inn River Valley, to capture INNSBRUCK and block the BRENNER Pass and to extend strong reconnaissance to LANDECK (V-3944) and [illegible] and assist the First French Army to [illegible] of those objectives 113/.

7. VI Corps Operations Instruction No. 36 was issued at 1700[illegible], directing: (a) the 10th Armd Division to continue present mission and seize INNSBRUCK and continue reconnaissance South through the BRENNER Pass; (b) the 44th Division to continue to advance and secure objective - the area between TELFS (D-5261) and IMST (D-2753) - and thereafter to continue the advance in the direction of LANDECK (V-3944) and PRUTZ (V-4737), protect the Corps right flank and maintain contact with the I French Corps; (c) the 103d Division to continue advance and secure initial Corps objective, - the area between INNSBRUCK and OBERHOFEN (D-5461) - and thereafter to continue advance in direction of MATREI (V-0740) - GRIESAM BRENNER (V-0930), protect Corps left flank until relieved by elements of the 101st Airborne Division, and thereafter protect Corps left flank South of the BRENNER Pass and to maintain contact with the XXI Corps on the left; (d) the 101st Airborne Division to secure road net in the vicinity of LANDSBERG (Y-3443) and be prepared on Corps order to occupy initial Corps objective and upon further advance of 44th and 103d Divisions to proceed South and protect Corps left flank North of the BRENNER Pass 114/.

8. The VI Corps CP closed in [illegible]HAUSEN and opened in KAUFBEUREN (Y-1524) at 1445B.

29 April

1. Demolitions, defended road blocks and difficult terrain continued to be the main obstacles to the Corps advance on 29 April. The 10th Armd Division, accompanied and closely supported by troops of the 103d Division, made a deep thrust of more than thirty miles on the Corps left flank. Although encountering spiritedly defended road blocks and craters along the SCHONGAU - PARTENKIRCHEN (D-5382) highway, the armor, after the infantry had routed the strategically emplaced enemy along the ever present towering mountains by-passed or cleared the road blocks to be in PARTENKIRCHEN by the close of the period. Elements of the 103d Division, after waiting until a bridge over the LECH River at LECHBRUCK was completed, advanced unopposed East and South to BUCHING (D-3195). Troops of the 44th Division closely coordinating with the 10th Armd Division columns on the right cracked the initially strong resistance in the mountainous region South of FUSSEN and together forced the enemy to dislodge from his favorable positions on the wooded heights and withdraw to the East. On the right, other elements of the 44th Division closed in to the Southeast against negligible active resistance to occupy OY (D-0397) and WERTACH (D-0192) at the close of the period. Corps continued to maintain its daily high prisoner score by capturing 7,136 prisoners from various units including the 47, 257, and the 559 VG Divisions.

2. CC "A" of the 10th Armd Division on the Corps left flank crossed the Bailey bridge just South of SCHONGAU (Y-3617) early in the morning and accompanied by troops of the 409th Inf attacked along the main highway to the Southeast. Progress was rapid against no resistance and a 500-foot bridge crossing a deep gorge was captured intact at Y-431064 in the vicinity of SCHWAIG. The column continued to roll unopposed till two road craters were reached at Y-4702, near SAULGRUB. By-passing these craters, the column encountered a road block, by noon, at the approach to OBER AMMERGAU (D-5094) defended by small arms, automatic weapon and artillery fire coming from the mountains to the Southeast at D-5493. While the infantry went forward to flush out the resistance, the armor removed the road block and proceeded through OBER AMMERGAU. After emerging from the

113/. Annex No. 9.

114/. Annex No. 8.

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town, the tanks were constantly harassed, as they passed through narrow ravines, by small arms and automatic weapons fire from troops entrenched on the surrounding heights. By the close of the period this resistance was eliminated and the column had reached PARTENKIRCHEN (D-5352), a distance of some thirty miles from their jump off point. CC "B" in the FUSSEN area encountered stubborn resistance from troops of the 137 Mtn Regt, (2 Mtn Div) and remnants of the 1192 Hvy Arty which had been committed as infantry. Crossing the bridge erected over the LECH River at D-230394 before dawn, the tanks after being delayed considerably by a large crater at D-228391 encountered a cement road block at UNTER PINSWANG (D-2086) which they were able to by-pass. Pushing South against decreasing small arms and anti-tank fire, as troops of the 71st Inf routed elements of the 133 Alpine Regt entrenched on the slopes, the column seized two intact bridges at PFLACH (D-2494) and advanced to REUTTE (D-2531) to find the streets heavily mined. By the end of the period, however, leading elements had reached HEITERWANG (D-2776). CC "R" remained assembled in SCHONGAU prepared to follow CC "A" 115/.

3. On the Corps left flank elements of the 409th Inf of the 103d Division both followed and accompanied CC "A" in its plunge South from SCHONGAU to PARTENKIRCHEN. As leading troops advanced up the rugged mountain slopes to silence enemy fire delaying the armor's advance, other elements cleaned out small pockets of by-passed enemy resistance. Other troops remained in SCHONGAU to protect the two bridges, a Bailey and a ponton, erected by the 40th Engineer (C) Group. The 411th Inf left LANDSBERG (Y-3943) to move by motorized column along the highway cleared by CC "A" and the 409th Inf, to enter UNTER AMMERGAU (D-4796). On the right, elements of the 410th Inf waiting at LECHBRUCK (Y-2904) for a bridge across the LECH River to be completed, crossed the floating treadway bridge at 1115 and advanced East unopposed to STEINGADEN (Y-3405) thence South along the main route to [illegible] (D-3293) and [illegible] (D-3175) by the close of the period 116/.

4. The 44th Division, overcoming resistance offered by remnants of the 47, 257 and 559 VG Divisions, attacked South and East against resistance that, although stubborn initially, gradually decreased throughout the period. The 71st Inf supported the advance of [illegible] by having accompanying troops with leading columns disperse and route enemy entrenched along the slopes and crests of the numerous hills along the route. Other elements of the 71st Inf jumped off with armored columns across the newly erected bridge in [illegible] at [illegible] and by a flank maneuver broke the determined but short-lived enemy resistance at UNTER [illegible] (D-2086). By the close of the period close supporting troops were with the armor in [illegible] (D-[illegible]). Meanwhile, the 114th Inf, encountering tortuous, winding mountain [illegible] in the division central zone, succeeded in driving South to just North of [illegible] (D-1241) after cratered roads, defended road blocks and scattered enemy resistance had slowed the advance. The 324th Inf, protecting the division's [illegible] flank, attacked Southeast from [illegible] (Y-0[illegible]73) against strong resistance to reach [illegible] (D-0347), although [illegible] 40 to 50 enemy, armed with small arms and automatic weapons, defended an avalanche road block from positions [illegible] a ravine just North of [illegible] (D-[illegible]), as leading elements attacked [illegible] resistance [illegible] (D-[illegible]) 117/.

5. Principal activity of the 101st Airborne Division whose elements were still closing in the Corps area took [illegible] 506th [illegible] [illegible] elements [illegible] [illegible], protecting the Corps flank.

114/. [illegible], 29 Apr - Entries 27, [illegible].

116/. [illegible], 29 Apr - Entries [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], 31 and [illegible].

117/. [illegible], 29 Apr - Entries [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], 50, 62 and [illegible].

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6. At 150001, Corps issued Corps Instruction No. 17, [illegible] the 10th Mountain Division to relieve elements of the [illegible] Division [illegible] (-192), to relieve elements of the 92nd Division [illegible] (-317). Prior to [illegible] and coordination of relief to protect the [illegible] Corps [illegible] coordinate relief [illegible] the Commanding Generals of the 86th and 92nd Divisions and to maintain contact with the [illegible] Corps on the right and the [illegible] on the left, (b) Corps Artillery to [illegible] the 92nd [illegible] to vicinity of [illegible] (S-342) without delay, the advance party to report to the [illegible] 86th Div at [illegible] for further instructions.

April

1. [illegible] resistance on 30 April was [illegible] centered on numerous road blocks [illegible] along the main road [illegible] to [illegible] (-2787). Columns of the 10th Mtn Division supported by troops of the [illegible] and 86th Divisions moved doggedly along the steep and narrow [illegible] Alpine passes, constantly coping with craters, rubble, overturned vehicle blocks, blown bridges and at one point a 200 yard man-made avalanche. Although the supporting infantry routed enemy troops directing protecting fire on the obstacles from the overlooking heights, the terrain rendered [illegible] ambush dovetailed with an artificial road block that prevented further vehicular advance but permitted foot troops to pass. The last day of the month witnessed a prisoner haul of 10,325 - from remnants of the 157, 334 and 157 Divisions - to raise the total for the month of April to the [illegible] figure of 20,902.

2. Numerous road blocks, narrow defiles and steep grades [illegible] were confronted by troops of the 2[illegible] Division and the [illegible] Alpine Regt. Harassing fire preceded the advance of the 10th Mtn Division. Columns of [illegible] supported by troops of the 86th Div, driving east from [illegible] encountered what proved to be the first of a series of effective obstacles. [illegible] crater completely obstructed the road at [illegible]-6662, just east of [illegible]. Before it was filled in by the tank dozer, short distance beyond a 50' foot bridge over a gorge at [illegible]-573822, South of [illegible]TAN, was found blown. After by-passing this site the column encountered a [illegible] fault on the other side of the bridge and another further east at [illegible]-608[illegible], east of [illegible]. Both sites were protected by intense small arms fire. [illegible] of [illegible] at [illegible]-[illegible], approximately [illegible] men delivered intense small arms, automatic weapon and artillery fire on the column. Overcoming this resistance, the forces were halted by a blown bridge (S-6611), the approaches to which had been [illegible], in the vicinity of [illegible]. Other elements of the [illegible] advanced northeast from [illegible] (-9262) and, encountering only a road block at [illegible]-8307 defended by a platoon of 20 who surrendered, made contact with patrols of the 71st Inf (10th Div) at [illegible]-8075. [illegible], followed closely by troops of the 71st Inf, attacked southwest from RATTLE ANG (S-2776) and immediately received intense mortar fire from hostile forces protecting a blown bridge over the [illegible] River at [illegible]-2767. A by-pass was located further south at [illegible]-296763 and the column proceeded through STEINBACH (S-3073) to a point just east [illegible] at S-311736 where a road block of overturned vehicles caused a delay. Continuing to [illegible] (-3771) the column swung southeast but encountered another overturned vehicle protected at [illegible]-[illegible], East of Ft. ROGERS. Although constantly harassed by mortar and [illegible] fire from troops scattered along the tortuous mountains, the column moved into the

11 1/. Annex No. 1.

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narrow defiles only to be halted at a hairpin curve in the pass at D-345660 where a road block consisting of an avalanche of boulders, gravel and logs extending for some 200 yards proved a formidable barrier. By late afternoon both CC "A" and CC "B" were ordered to remain in place to allow the infantry to pass through. CC "R" and the balance of CC "A" assembled in the GARMISCH - PARTENKIRCHEN area 119/.

3. While some elements of the 409th Inf of the 103d Division remained in PARTENKIRCHEN, the main body accompanied and followed columns of the 10th Armd Division in the attack Southeast from PARTENKIRCHEN. Troops of the 409th assisted the armor in removing and by-passing the many road blocks and in eliminating hostile fire and resistance along the route. On reaching the blown bridge at D-6482 in the vicinity of KLAIS, elements passed through the armor, by-passing the road block, and by the end of the period were enroute to MITTENWALD (D-6577). The 411th Inf assembled in FARCHANT (D-5486). The 410th Inf located in the BUCHING (D-3195) - TRAUNGAU (D-3298) area had elements reconnoitering for routes Southeast through the mountains to ETTAL (D-5290). Elements of the 327th Glider Inf of the 101st Airborne Division were arriving in the Corps sector and were expected to close in the SCHONGAU (Y-3617) - ROTTENBUCH (Y-4209) area preparatory to relieving elements of the 103d Division 120/.

4. The bulk of the 71st Inf of the 44th Division closely coordinated with CC "B" in the attack from BICHLBACH (D-3073), through LERMOOS (D-3771) along the FERN PASS where the armor was halted by the impassible road block at D-345660. The balance of the 71st Inf closed in at LERMOOS where strong patrols reconnoitered to the Northeast without meeting any resistance and contacted columns of CC "A" at D-4075. The 114th Inf in the division central zone proceeded unopposed by motorized column from GRAN (D-1281) through NESSELWANGLE (D-1679) and GAICHT (D-1777) to encounter two impassable blown bridges at D-180768 and across the river at D-190755. Foot troops, however, were able to by-pass the obstacles to advance Southwest still unopposed to FORCHACH (D-1472). On the division right flank while one element of the 324th Inf remained at OY (D-0397) and BERG (D-1291) others attacked South of WERTACH (Y-0192) but encountered a 20-yard crater at D-015905 and a series of four road blocks dispersed between JUNGHOLZ (D-0389) and UNTERJOCH (D-0135) that obstructed any further movement South. The 502d Parachute Inf was enroute from [illegible] (X-3234) to an area North of WERTACH (Y-0192) to relieve elements of the 44th Division 121/.

5. Elements of the 101st Airborne Division continued to close into the Corps area, the 327th Glider Inf still moving into assembly areas in SCHONGAU and ROTTENBUCH as the period closed. While the 506th Prcht Inf continued to protect the Corps left flank in the [illegible] area the 502d was enroute from [illegible] to WERTACH (Y-0192) to assume the mission of protecting the Corps right flank.

6. At 2000B Corps Operations Instruction No. 38 was issued, directing: (a) that so much of O.I. No. 37, directing the 101st Airborne Division to relieve the 103d Division be rescinded; (b) the 101st Airborne Division to secure and police the general area [illegible] (Y-1524) - [illegible] (Y-4001) - WERTACH (Y-0192) - [illegible] (Y-0563), coordinating with the Commanding General 36th AAA Brigade, maintain contact with the I French Corps on the right, and be prepared to move by motor on 24 hours notice; (c) the 10th Armd Division to assemble in place with the exception of the elements engaged in clearing the

119/. [illegible], 30 Apr (Kaufbeuren CP) - Entries #13, 25 and 30; (Steingaden CP) - Entries #15, 18, 23, 42, 49 and 50.

120/. [illegible], 30 Apr (Kaufbeuren CP) - Entries #14, 37, 42 and 68; (Steingaden CP) - Entries #17 and 52.

121/. [illegible], 30 Apr (Kaufbeuren CP) - Entry #41; (Steingaden CP) - Entries #16, 19, 24, 40, 42 and 51.

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road from LIMOS (Y-3771) to [illegible] (Y-2242); (c) the 103d Division [illegible] elements of the 10th Armd. Division in Zone and Seize Corps objective [illegible] (Y-1277), protect Corps [illegible] flank and maintain contact with VI Corps; (e) the 10th Division to pass through elements of the 10th Armored Division in Zone and seize Corps objective in zone [illegible] (Y-2701) area), to extend attack re- [illegible] area to [illegible] (Y-3776), protect Corps [illegible] flank [illegible] southeast of [illegible] (Y-1176) and maintain contact with [illegible] corps on the right 122/.

7. The VI Corps Command Post closed in Kaiserslautern and opened at [illegible] (Y-3105) at 1300.

CONCLUSION

Since August 17th when VI Corps swept ashore on Southern France on the 15th and rolled 300 miles to the north before the end of the month while capturing 30,000 prisoners and completely routing the Nineteenth German Army and the Corps enjoyed such outstanding success. Singularly enough it was the German Nineteenth Army again that was victim, after the breakthrough South of LUNEVILLE and into the [illegible] AREA, the German First Army disengaging to the East at that time while the Nineteenth retreating, but before the advance of the First French Army was pocketed [illegible] of our deep salient. In the course of the month's operations and among the more than 70,000 prisoners captured no less than eighteen divisions were identified: - the 9, 16, 17, [illegible] 189, 212, 256, 257, 327, 338, 553, 559 and 716 [illegible], the 2 Mtn, 17 SS Pz, 707 and 949 Res and the Volunteer Cossack (Russian) divisions.

While the disorganization of the enemy was apparent after the breakthrough South of LUNEVILLE, the speed and smoothness with which the Corps continued the advance was outstanding in view of the obstacles of terrain - the numerous rivers and mountain ranges. In the course of the month's operations VI Corps crossed such rivers as the MEUSE, [illegible], MOSELLE, SAAR, [illegible], [illegible] and RHINE, not to mention the innumerable tributaries over which not one bridge had been destroyed by the retreating German Army. Such success was made possible only by detailed and detailed staff planning which ensures a steady flow of supplies despite the speed of the advance, and by the excellent execution of those plans by the commanders and the troops leading the attack.

[illegible] H. H. HARRIS JR.,
Major General, U.S. Army,
Commanding.

122/. Annex No. 1.

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ANNEXES TO VI CORPS HISTORY - APRIL 1945

#1 - Casualty Report of VI Corps Troops
#2A- Roster of Officers, Hq VI Corps, 9 April 1945
2B- Changes in Officer Personnel, Hq VI Corps
#3 - Report of Strength, Battle Casualties, Decorations and Awards, Hq & Hq Co and MP Plat, VI Corps - April 1945
#4 - Photographs (with orig only)
#5 - VI Corps Combat Troop List, 2 April 1945
#6 - Changes in Troop Attachments and Detachments, Hq VI Corps - April 1945
#7 - Map of VI Corps Route of Advance - April 1945
#8 - VI Corps Operations Instructions Nos. 69 thru 88, Inclusive - April 1945 (with orig only)
#9 - 7th Army Operations Instructions Nos. 121, 123, 125, 128, 131, 134, 135, 137, 138, 139, 140, 145 and 147 - April 1945 (with orig only)
#10 - 7th Army Field Order No. 12, 17 Apr 45 (with orig only)
#11 - Photographs of G-2 and G-3 Daily Situation Maps - April 1945 (with orig only)

UNDER SEPARATE COVER: (1 copy only)

#12 - G-1 Journal - April 1945
#13 - G-2 Journals (including G-2 Reports) - April 1945
#14 - War Room Journals - April 1945
#15 - VI Corps G-3 Reports - April 1945
#16 - G-4 Journal with Supporting Papers - April 1945
#17 - G-5 Journal - April 1945
#18 - AG Journal - April 1945
#19 - Q4 Journal - April 1945
#20 - Ord Journal - April 1945
#21 - TC Journal - April 1945
#22 - SJA Journal - April 1945
#23 - FIN Journal - April 1945
#24 - QMC Journal - April 1945
#25 - Chaplain Journal - April 1945
#26 - CWS - Sn Journal - April 1945
#27 - Surgeon Journal - April 1945
#28 - Signal Journal - April 1945
#29 - Engineer Journal - April 1945
#30 - TC Journal - April 1945
#31 - G-3 Reports, G-3 Reports, Field Orders, etc. of VI Corps Arty, 3 Inf Div, 45 Div, 36 Div.

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CASUALTY REPORT OF VI CORPS TROOPS - APRIL 1945

Date for pd ending 2359	Killed	Captured, Missing and Interned	Wounded	Non-Battle Casualties	Reinforcements and RTUs	Enemy PWs Captured
1 Apr	17	3	115	73	53	1155
2 "	20	6	109	95	63	1325
3 "	18	1	69	77	13	614
4 "	25	26	177	104	298	645
5 "	54	85	117	100	23	446
6 "	21	22	204	85	841	607
7 "	24	21	123	100	52	758
8 "	37	20	296	120	476	514
9 "	55	26	140	103	640	1204
10 "	35	39	132	148	19	1193
11 "	39	23	107	138	22	545
12 "	23	4	141	160	41	518
13 "	25	20	80	126	40	552
14 "	7	12	101	154	511	518
15 "	14	8	141	122	1106	504
16 "	27	7	97	135	226	544
17 "	17	5	122	170	472	571
18 "	37	13	229	150	804	1019
19 "	7	0	41	127	100	358
20 "	16	0	94	82	523	934
21 "	14	7	95	107	181	1609
22 "	23	3	87	143	85	3830
23 "	10	1	58	128	30	4035
24 "	13	13	71	110	135	2860
25 "	11	8	48	75	19	4292
26 "	9	12	58	93	709	3366
27 "	8	4	39	83	15	7006
28 "	12	0	23	83	12	9471
29 "	17	14	89	106	20	7913
30 "	7	1	35	87	92	11599
TOTALS	642	404	3238	3384	7621	70505

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CASUALTY REPORT OF VI CORPS TROOPS - APRIL 1945

Date for 2d ending 2300	Killed	Captured, Missing and Interned	Wounded	Non-Battle Casualties	Reinforcements and RTUs	Enemy PWs Captured
1 Apr	17	3	115	73	53	1155
2 "	20	6	109	95	63	1325
3 "	18	1	69	77	13	614
4 "	25	2	177	104	298	645
5 "	54	5	117	100	23	446
6 "	21	22	204	85	841	607
7 "	24	21	123	100	52	758
8 "	37	20	296	120	476	514
9 "	55	8	140	103	640	1804
10 "	35	3	132	148	19	1193
11 "	39	23	107	138	22	545
12 "	23	4	141	160	41	518
13 "	25	20	60	126	40	552
14 "	7	12	101	154	511	518
15 "	14	8	141	128	1106	504
16 "	27	7	97	135	226	544
17 "	17	5	122	170	472	571
18 "	37	13	229	150	804	1019
19 "	7	0	41	127	100	358
20 "	16	0	94	88	523	934
21 "	14	7	95	107	181	1609
22 "	23	3	87	143	85	3830
23 "	10	1	58	128	30	4035
24 "	13	13	71	110	135	2860
25 "	11	8	45	75	19	4892
26 "	9	12	58	93	709	3366
27 "	8	4	39	83	15	7006
28 "	12	0	23	83	12	9471
29 "	17	14	89	106	20	7913
30 "	7	1	35	87	98	11599
TOTALS	642	404	3238	3384	7621	70505

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HEADQUARTERS [illegible] CORPS
[illegible], U. S. Army

[illegible] April [illegible]

SECTION [illegible] ASSIGNED OFFICERS AND WARRANT OFFICERS

COMMANDING GENERAL

Major General Edward [illegible], [illegible]
Capt Walter [illegible], [illegible], Inf ([illegible])
Capt William [illegible], [illegible], Inf ([illegible])

CHIEF OF STAFF

Brigadier General Charles D. Palmer, [illegible], GSC

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

Col Paul A. Chalmers, [illegible], GSC

LIAISON OFFICERS

Capt James C. Grimes, [illegible], Fa (Beachhead Tests)
Capt Leo M. Armstrong, 0405177, Inf
Capt Daniel T. [illegible], 01[illegible], Fa
1st Lt Paul W. Stephani, [illegible], Fa

G-1 SECTION

Lt Col John W. Wibel, 0339053, GSC
Maj Robert G. Perriello, 0389394, GSC

G-2 SECTION

Col Joseph L. Langevin, 012640, GSC
Lt Col Don W. Dixon, 0343066, GSC
Maj Dexter S. French, 0277582, Cav
Maj Edward L. Dobbins, 0452060, Inf
Capt Joseph Haines III, 01[illegible], Inf

G-3 SECTION

Col Albert O. Connor, 020699, GSC (TD US)
Lt Col Michael S. Davison, 022051, GSC
Maj John L. Cooper, 0351994, Cav
Maj William R. Rose, 0352042, CAC (Air-Ground Ln O)
Maj John Schadler Jr, 0383957, QMC
Maj Edward M. Murray, 0452479, Inf (I & E O)
Capt Albert R. Tryon, 01100363, Ch
Capt James J. Harrington Jr, 0461327, Inf
Capt Kenneth B. Floto, 01305228, Inf
1st Lt Arthur J. Foley, 0407726, Cav (Asst Air-Ground Ln O)
(TD US)

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G-4 SECTION

Col Burton E. Miles, 0347590, GSC
Maj Robert B. Clark, 0910364, GSC
Maj Ralph L. Harper, 0303227, Inf
Maj William H. Ferguson, 01165013, FA
Capt Harold F. Pacha, 01310486, Inf
Capt Orris R. Evers, 02046557, CWS (ID US)

G-5 SECTION

Maj Campbell Dickson, 0521064, GSC
1st Lt Richard Hall, 0179763[illegible], CMP

ADJUTANT GENERAL SECTION

Col Michael L. Conners, [illegible], AGD
Maj Harry S. Alcorn, 0100[illegible], AGD
Maj Courtney L. Vallentine, 0100[illegible], AGD
1st Lt William F. Blickett, [illegible], AGD
1st Lt Robert F. Head, 01010165, Cav
WOJG George T. Smith Jr, W-[illegible]

CHAPLAIN SECTION

Col William A. King, 0268277, Ch Corps
Lt Col Jordan A. Brown, 0402849, Ch Corps
CWO Francis M. Mugavin, W-2100915

CHEMICAL SECTION

Lt Col William C. Hammond Jr, 0270[illegible], CWS
Maj Lloyd B. Pitman Jr, 0[illegible], CWS

ENGINEER SECTION

Col William N. Thomas Jr, 07648, CE
Lt Col Robert H. Dunlap, 0316638, CE
Capt Joseph M. Devine, 0421809, CE
Capt Edgar D. Lee, [illegible], CE
2d Lt Frank C. Little, [illegible], CE

FINANCE SECTION

Col Howard L. Leighton, [illegible], FD
Capt Frederick H. Dietz, 0128[illegible], FD

INSPECTOR GENERAL SECTION

Col Neal L. Adams, 07471, IGD
Lt Col James D. Pennycuick, 0307472, IGD
Capt William L. Mosher, 0409468, IGD (ID US)

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JUDGE ADVOCATE SECTION

Col Robert L. Lancefield, 018037, JAGD
Maj Jack M. Cotton, 0293310, JAGD

MEDICAL SECTION

Col Oliver W. Greer, 0200543, MC
Lt Col Walker Stamps, 0357847, MC
Maj Sigfrid G. Kinkopf, 0454084, MAC (TD US)
Maj James L. Rounds, 0490026, MAC
WOJG Donald L. Sutliff, W-2108339

ORDNANCE SECTION

Col Walter G. Jen[illegible]rs, 0174217, Ord Dept
Lt Col John F. Merrill, 0181[illegible], Ord Dept
Maj Stanley M. Smolensky, [illegible], Ord Dept (TD US)
Capt Benjamin [illegible]. Swank Jr, [illegible], Ord Dept
Capt Henry J. Eral, 01549[illegible], Ord Dept
CWO Edward C. Kelly, W-2114233

PROVOST MARSHAL SECTION

Maj Mario T. Vilianti, 0427[illegible], CMP
Capt Sam F. Doering, 0409112, CMP
1st Lt William H. Scott, 01285125, CMP
1st Lt Philip W. Marsh, 01786124, CMP

QUARTERMASTER SECTION

Col Lawrence L. Skinner, 015325, QMC
Lt Col James [illegible]. Hattox, 0276[illegible], QMC
Maj John A. Bradish, 0284157, QMC
1st Lt Herbert R. Southworth, 01579157, QMC

SIGNAL SECTION

Lt Col Garmon L. [illegible], [illegible], Sig C
Maj Wilbur D. Vincent, [illegible], Sig C
Capt Willard W. [illegible], [illegible], Sig C
Capt Luther D. [illegible], [illegible], Sig C

SPECIAL SERVICE SECTION

Maj Dale A. Mathews, [illegible], Int [illegible]

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT

Lt Col Leonard C. [illegible], [illegible], CMC

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HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Capt Paul [illegible], [illegible], Inf
Capt Robert [illegible], [illegible], AC
Capt Isidore [illegible], [illegible], CC
1st Lt Benjamin [illegible], [illegible], Inf
1st Lt Lawson A. [illegible], [illegible], Inf
1st Lt [illegible] E. [illegible], [illegible], Cav
1st Lt Edmund [illegible], [illegible], Inf

MILITARY POLICE PLATOON

1st Lt Christopher [illegible], [illegible], Inf
2d Lt [illegible] B. [illegible], [illegible], CAP

SECTION II ATTACHED FOR [illegible] OPERATIONS

G-2 SECTION

Capt Lauren C. [illegible] Jr, [illegible], AC
Capt Charles [illegible], [illegible], AC
Capt Arthur J. [illegible], [illegible], AC (Photo Int)
Capt Alfred G. [illegible], [illegible], CAC
1st Lt Charles [illegible], [illegible], Inf

G-3 AIR

Capt William H. Davidson, [illegible], AC
1st Lt John M. Frahm, [illegible], AC
1st Lt Baddia J. [illegible], [illegible], AC
2d Lt Edward C. [illegible], [illegible], AC

G-5 SECTION

Maj Robert A. Glen, [illegible], Ord Dept

ENGINEER SECTION

Capt Ivan A. Reiner, [illegible], CE

LIAISON SECTION

1st Lt Pierre M. de Pilatzky (French)
2d Lt Pierre-Etienne de Viel Castel (French)

SPECIAL SERVICE SECTION

1st Lt John H. Shumaker Jr, 01310514, Inf

ETOUSA OBSERVER

Col Christian Hildebrand, 012450, Inf

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Don N. Allen (Asst Field Director)

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

CHANGES IN OFFICER PERSONNEL - APRIL 1945

I - ASSIGNMENTS; ATTACHMENTS

Date	Officer	Remarks
3	1st Lt Paul W. Stephani, FA	Asgd & Jd fr 645th TD Bn
4	Maj Robert A. Gish, Ord Dept	Atchd fr ECAD as of 2 Apr
7	Col Christian Hildebrand, Inf Maj Campbell Dickson, GSC	Atchd fr Hq ETOUSA Asgd & Jd fr 2d Reinf Depot as of 1 Apr
12	1st Lt Paul A. Baltes, CE	Asgd & Jd fr 31st Engr C Bn
18	2d Lt Philip Rothman, AC	Atchd fr Hq 7th Army
24	1st Lt Howell C. Henderson, Inf	Asgd fr 100th Inf Div
25	Capt Richard G. Young, Inf	Atchd fr 100th Inf Div (Asgd fr 100th Inf Div on 27 Apr)
28	Capt William A. Garden, Inf 1st Lt Edward G. May, CAC	Asgd fr 100th Inf Div Asgd fr 63d Inf Div

II - DETACHMENTS; RELIEF FR ASGMT

9	Capt John F. Rieger, Cav	Reld fr atchmt - Atchd 230th CIC Det
11	1st Lt John M. Frahm, AC	Reld fr atchmt as of 4 Apr
14	Col Lawrence L. Spinner, QMC	Reld fr asgmt - Departed for Duty in OQMG, Wash., D.C.
20	Maj Campbell Dickson, GSC	Reld fr Asgmt - Asgd 21 Govt Pers Pool, Hq 6th Army Group (carried as attached)
	2d Lt Philip Rothman, AC	Reld fr atchmt
23	Maj Dexter S. French, Cav	Reld fr asgmt - Asgd Hq 6th Army Group
	Maj Gale A. Mathers, Inf	
25	1st Lt John M. Shumaker, Jr., Inf	Reld fr atchmt - Rtd to 102d Inf Div
28	Maj Robert A. Gish, Ord Dept	Reld fr atchmt as of 27 Apr

III - PROMOTIONS

4	Maj John F. Merrill, Ord Dept	Prom to Lt Col, Off 1 Apr

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III - PROMOTIONS (Cont'd)

Date	Officer	Remarks
19	Capt James C. Grimes, FA	Prom to Major, eff 15 Apr
	Capt Benjamin [illegible] Swank, Jr., Ord Dept	Prom to Major, eff 15 Apr
	1st Lt Richard [illegible], [illegible]	Prom to Captain, eff 15 Apr
20	1st Lt Charles Marshall, Inf	Prom to Captain, eff 15 Apr

IV - MISCELLANEOUS

1	1st Lt Arthur J. Foley, Cav	TD in USA for 45 days Rest and Recuperation
2	Maj Sigfrid G. Hinkopf, MAC	TD in USA for 45 days Rest and Recuperation
19	Col Albert O. Conner, CSC	TD in USA to Duty

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

APRIL - 1945

~~REPORT OF STRENGTH, BATTLE CASUALTIES, DECORATIONS AND AWARDS~~

I. STRENGTH:

Hq VI Corps:

		Assigned	Attached	Total	Net Change
Officers	1 Apr 45 -	76	12	88	
	30 Apr 45 -	78	12	90	+2
Warrant O's	1 Apr 45 -	4	0	4	
	30 Apr 45 -	4	0	4	0

Hq Co VI Corps:

Officers	1 Apr 45 -	7	0	7	
	30 Apr 45 -	8	0	8	+1
EM	1 Apr 45 -	299	26	325	
	30 Apr 45 -	309	26	335	+10

MP Plat VI Corps:

Officers	1 Apr 45 -	2	0	2	
	30 Apr 45 -	2	0	2	0
EM	1 Apr 45 -	80	0	80	
	30 Apr 45 -	77	0	77	-3

II. BATTLE CASUALTIES:

Hq VI Corps: NONE

Hq Co VI Corps: 1st Lt EDMUND W. GOCART, 01018527, Inf, Missing in Action, 24 April 1945, at Pfaffelbach, Germany.

MP Plat VI Corps: NONE

III. DECORATIONS AND AWARDS:

Hq VI Corps: AWARD OF [illegible]

BURTON E. [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible]
(VI Corps O. . . . , . . . , . . . , . . . ,
WILLIAM J. [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible],
CM (VI Corps O. . . . , . . . , 11 Apr 45.
MICHAEL [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible],
MSM (VI Corps . . . . , . . . , 15 Apr 45.
[illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible],
MSM (VI Corps . . . . , . . . , 20 Apr 45.
[illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible],
(VI Corps O. . . . , . . . , 15 Apr 45.
[illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible],
(VI Corps O. . . . , . . . , 15 Apr 45.

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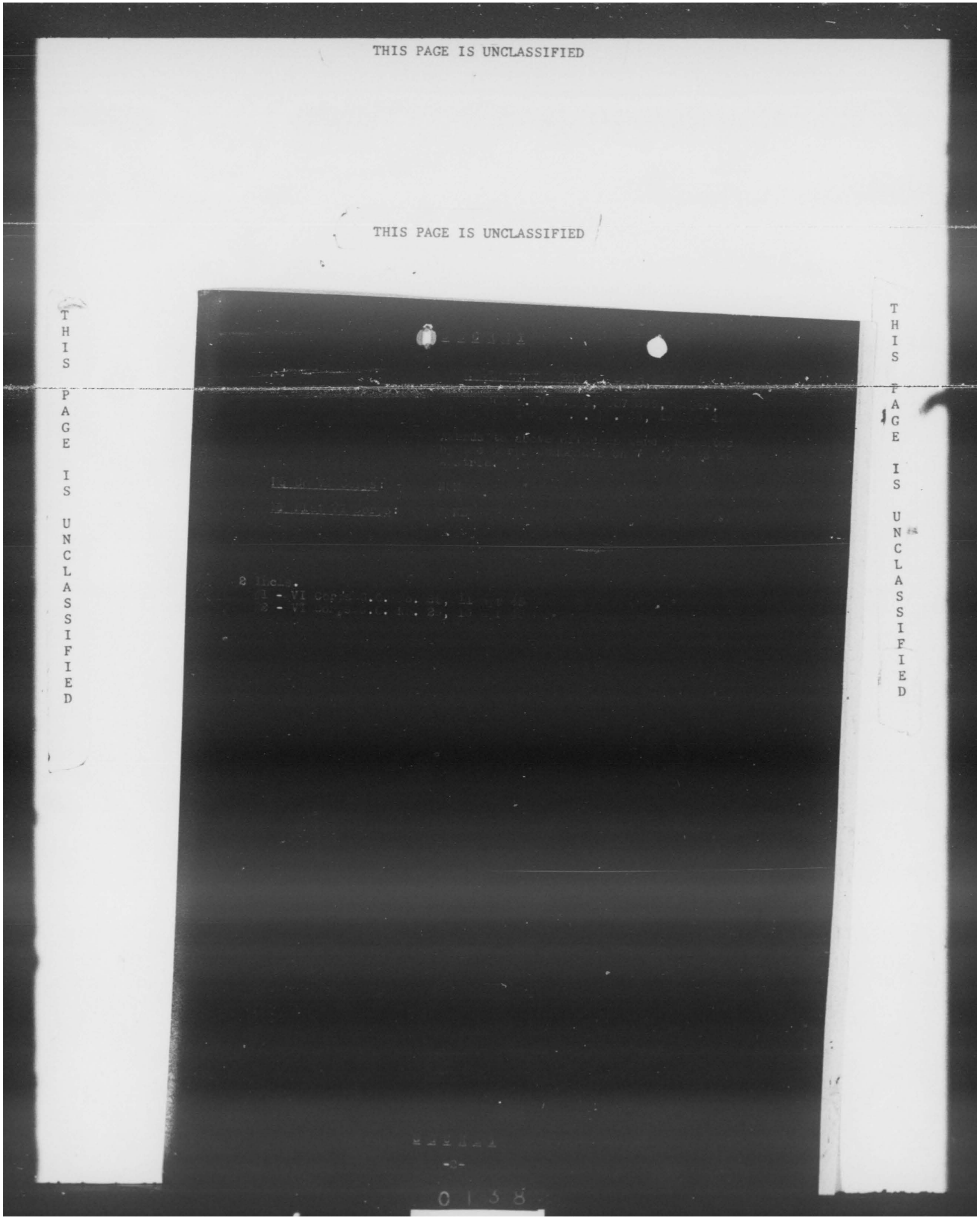

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

11 April 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER..... 25)

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....I
AWARD OF THE FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL.....II
AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL.....III

I AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals:

BURTON E. MILES, 0347690, Colonel, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 March to 1 April 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Austin, Texas.

WILLIAM N. THOMAS JR, 07648, Colonel, Corps of Engineers, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 to 25 March 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from New Haven, Connecticut.

JOHN M. BROWN, 0383254, Major, Cavalry, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for meritorious service in action from 15 November 1943 to 10 October 1944 in North Africa, Italy and France. Entered military service from Fanwood, New Jersey.

PAUL C. KRISTENSEN, 01647563, First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, 72d Signal Company (Special), for meritorious service in action from 27 October 1944 to 11 March 1945 in France. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

EARL M. JACKLIN, 39680627, Technical Sergeant, 216th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion, for meritorious service in action from 1 February to 30 November 1944 in Italy and France. Entered military service from Salt Lake City, Utah.

CHARLES E. HARRISON, 34198478, Sergeant, 2828th Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 7 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from Dudley, Georgia.

HENRY SCHESKIN, 32118799, Sergeant, 2828th Engineer Combat Battalion, for heroic achievement in action on 8 February 1945 in France. Entered military service from Brooklyn, New York.

JOHN P. O'LEARY, 21006785, Technician Fourth Grade, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, for meritorious service in action from 1 February to 31 December 1944 in Italy and France. Entered military service from Northampton, Massachusetts.

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[illegible]

[illegible] in Italy. Entered military [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] individuals for meritorious [illegible] while participating in aerial flights:

[illegible] First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 141st [illegible] to 16 March 1945 in France. Entered military service from [illegible], New York.

[illegible] JR, 01173[illegible], First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 141st Field Artillery Battalion, from 12 February to 16 March 1945 in France. Entered military service from [illegible] Springs, Florida.

III [illegible] OF THE AIR MEDAL.

[illegible] individuals for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

CHARLES [illegible] WILSON, 01171414, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 976th Field Artillery Battalion, from [illegible] February to 11 March 1945 in France. Entered military service from Paola, Kansas.

STANLEY [illegible] JOHANSON, 01180971, Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 141st Field Artillery Battalion, from 28 January to 17 March 1945 in France. Entered military service from Chic[illegible], Illinois.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BROOKS:

CHARLES D. PALMER,
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL: Michael L. Connors

MICHAEL L. CONNORS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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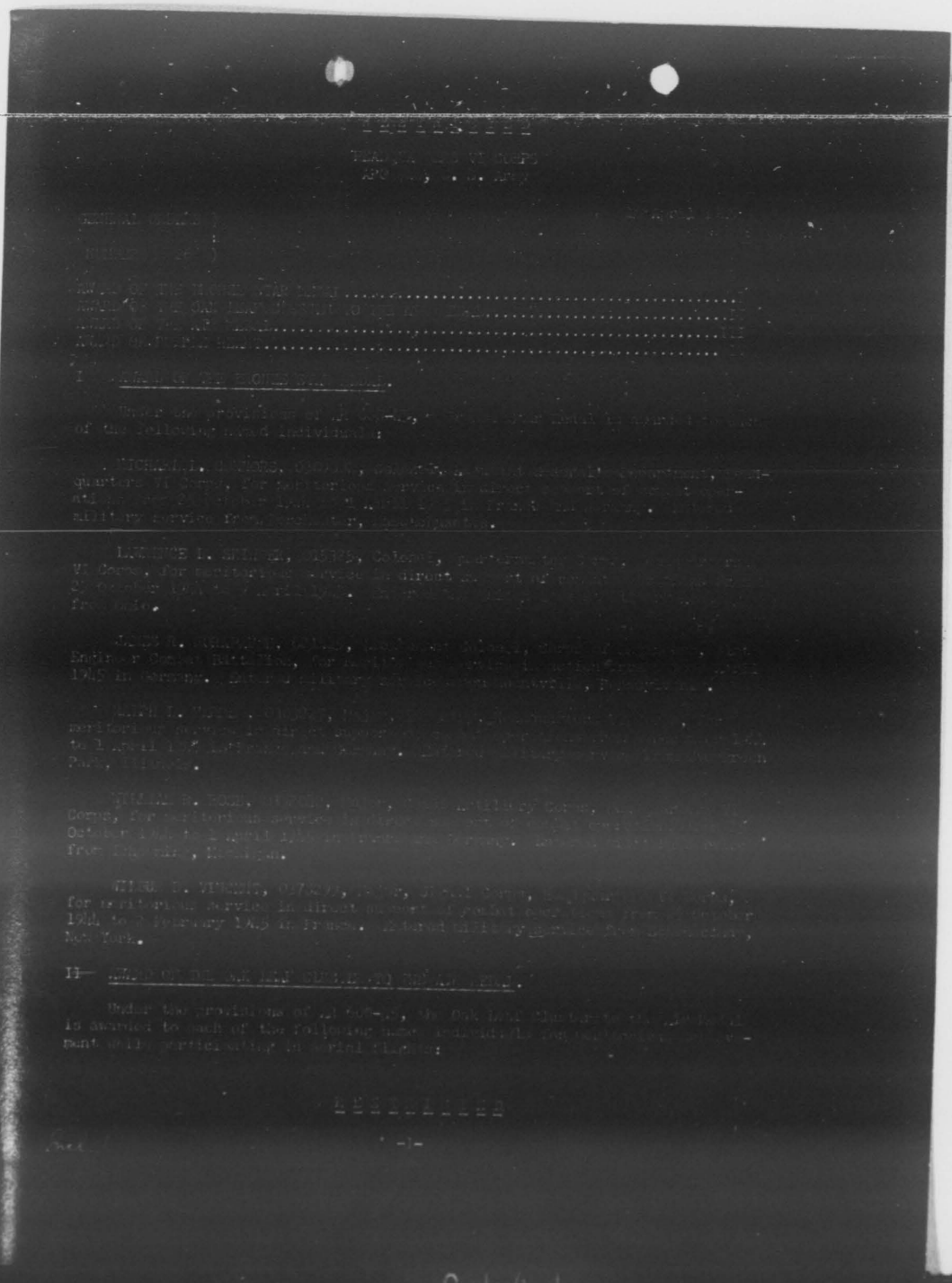

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 46 U. S. ARMY

SECRET
Authority of
CG VI Corps
Initials
2 Apr 45

VI CORPS COMBAT TROOP LIST
020800B Apr 45

Hq & Hq Co VI Corps

[illegible] Inf Div
[illegible] Inf - 861st FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible]4th Inf - 862d FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible]th Inf - 863d FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible]th FA Bn (155mm How)
[illegible] Engr C Bn
Atchd:
[illegible]th Armd FA Bn (105mm How SP)
[illegible]3d Tk Bn
[illegible]2d TD Bn (3" Gun Towed)
Co A [illegible]d Cml Mort Bn (4.2" Mort)

100th Inf Div (-)
[illegible] Inf - 374th FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible] Inf - 375th FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible] Inf (-3d Bn) - 925th FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible] FA Bn (155mm How)
[illegible] Engr C Bn
Atchd:
[illegible] FA Bn (105mm How)
[illegible] Bn
[illegible] TD Bn (76mm Gun SP)
Co C [illegible]d Cml Mort Bn (4.2" Mort)

[illegible] Div
[illegible], 61st Armd Inf Bns
[illegible], [illegible], [illegible]1st Tk Bns
[illegible], 420th, 423d Armd FA Bns (105mm How SP)
[illegible]th Cav Rcn Sq (Mecz)
[illegible]th Armd Engr Bn
Atchd:
[illegible]th TD Bn (76mm Gun SP)
93d Armd FA Bn (105mm How SP)

Cav
117th Cav Rcn Sq (-Tr C)

Cml
[illegible]d Cml Mort Bn (-Obs A,C)(4.2" Mort)
[illegible] Cml SC Co

[illegible]
[illegible] Bn
[illegible] Avy Constr Co

[illegible]:
[illegible]

Hq & Hq Btry VI Corps Arty
2d FA Obsn Bn
Hq & Hq Btry 6th FA Gp
141st FA Bn (155mm How)
976th FA Bn (155mm Gun)
Hq & Hq Btry 35th FA Gp
17th FA Bn (155mm How)
36th FA Bn (155mm Gun)
194th FA Bn (8" How)
Hq & Hq Btry 46th FA Gp
995th FA Bn (8" How)
698th FA Bn (240mm How)
Hq & Hq Btry 405th FA Gp
634th FA Bn (155mm How)
938th FA Bn (155mm How)
939th FA Bn (4.5" Gun)

Hq & Hq Btry & AAAOD 35th AAA Brig
Hq & Hq Co 1st Armd Gp
3d Bn 399th Inf
Tr C 117th Cav Rcn Sq
210th AAA Gun Bn (90mm Gun)
1st Plat Btry B 353d SL Bn
Hq & Hq Btry 51st AAA Gp
533d AAA AW Bn (40mm Gun)
435th AAA AW Bn (40mm Gun SP)(Supporting 63d Inf Div)
796th AAA AW Bn (37mm Gun SP)(Supporting 10th Armd Div)
896th AAA AW Bn (40mm Gun SP)(Supporting 100th Inf Div)

Engr
Hq & Hq Co 36th Engr C Gp
2826th Engr C Bn
2827th Engr C Bn
2828th Engr C Bn
31st Engr C Bn
1271st Engr C Bn
190th Engr DT Co
488th Engr L Pon Co
Surv Plat 661st Engr Topo Co

[illegible]
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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 46, U. S. ARMY

CHANGES IN ATTACHMENTS, ARMY TROOPS, VI CORPS - APRIL 1945

DATE	ATTACHED	DETACHED
1 Apr	63d Inf Div [illegible] Engr Bn 63d TD Bn [illegible] FA Bn [illegible] Cml Mort Bn [illegible] AAA AW Bn 10th Armd Div 783d [illegible] Bn 699th TD Bn 41st [illegible] FA Gp 443d [illegible] Trk Co [illegible] Hq & Hq Btry, 41st FA Gp [illegible] FA Bn	
5 Apr	1st Plat, 1021st Engr Tdwy Br Co	
6 Apr	63d Cml Cml Co [illegible]mar Det, 216th AAA Gun Bn [illegible] Sig Radar Maint Unit	216th AAA Gun Bn
7 Apr	Btry B, 386d [illegible] Bn	
8 Apr	324th RCT	
9 Apr		699th FA Bn
10 Apr		324th RCT
11 Apr	216th AAA Gun Bn	
14 Apr	168th Ord Bomb Disp Squad 103d Ord Bomb Disp Squad	
15 Apr	1[illegible]06th Engr Tdwy Br Co	190th Engr Disp Truck Co
17 Apr	44th Inf Div (-324th RCT) [illegible]th AAA AW Bn 778d Tank Bn 776th TD Bn	
18 Apr	86th Cml Mortar Bn	
19 Apr	103d Inf Div 634th AAA AW Bn 614th TD Bn 324th RCT 63th Armd FA Bn 461st AAA AW Bn	63d Inf Div 783d Tank Bn 63d TD Bn 46[illegible]th AAA AW Bn
20 Apr	Hq & Hq Btry, 17th FA Gp 741st FA Bn Co A, 84th Engr Cml Bn	

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Eff. Date	Attached	Detached
24 Apr	Hq & Hq Tr, 115th Cav Gp 107th Cav Ron Sqn	
25 Apr		100th Inf Div 398th AAA AW Bn
26 Apr	774th Tank Bn	Hq & Hq Btry, 17th FA Gp 741st FA Bn
27 Apr	101st Airborne Div 397th QM Trk Co 813th TD Bn	
28 Apr	513th QM Pack Co	
29 Apr		995th FA Bn Tr A, 107th Cav Ron Sqn
30 Apr	809th Amphibian Trk Co	

Incls.
Attachment Orders
and Movement Orders

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HEADQUARTERS V Corps
APO 305, U.S. Army

15 May 1945

SUBJECT: Activities of the Corps Transportation Officer - April 1945

I. INTRODUCTION.

The rapid advance of Corps troops during the month of April caused many varied supply problems. During the early part of the month stiff opposition in the Heilbronn area slowed the advance and forced front line and rear echelon units to bring their supply installations closer to the fighting units. Armored Division break-thru to the Crailsheim area extended supply lines to the breaking point and necessitated air supply to that area. Failure to keep the M...R. open forced armored units to withdraw from the Crailsheim area ... in an area in the rear of the 10th and 63d Divisions area. After four days of bitter fighting in the Heilbronn area the 10th Division broke thru the defenses and the armor was again committed to the front between the 10th and 63d Divisions. A new Operation Instructions from Seventh Army changed the direction of the Corps and a sharp thrust was aimed directly South from Heilbronn to the Swiss border.

The 103d Division motorized one ... which ... thru and guarded critical points along the ... to the ... and the 44th Infantry Division following ... Armored Division Corps drove to within a few kilometers of the Swiss border at the end of the month.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS.

The fanatical defense of Heilbronn in the early part of the month and subsequent destruction of our treadway bridge ... caused a reroute of supplies and heavy traffic ... bridge at Heilbronn. When the Heilbronn defense collapsed and the armored break-thru took place hundreds of enemy prisoners of war and captured material became a major problem. Hordes of displaced persons also constituted a problem ... evacuation ... as well as supply. The extended supply lines necessitated the use of all available means of transportation and at times units of Corps Artillery and Air Corps had to be grounded because their trucks were used to move supplies and troops. Higher priority of air resupply to other areas further restricted the use of air transportation. The continued advance of infantry elements ... with the supply situation.

III SUPPLY SITUATION.

The supply situation on the whole remained ... due to the rapid advance of our troops, our lines ... stretched ... There was no major shortages of any items that would ... situation although failure of sufficient ... the Crailsheim area caused armored units ... the treadway bridge at Heilbronn continued ... necessitated the attachment of one ... unit on the other side of the river, ... Typical German demolition of ... of keeping bridge trains close ... new areas and in keeping the supplies moving.

Rations, gasoline and ammunition ... the offensive operations but supply by air ... occasioned the grounding of other Corps units to make ... ration and gas hauls was necessary on ... occasions.

The feeding of PW's and DP's caused some trouble ... stocks helped alleviate food shortages ... instances.

Many hundreds of vital supply and industrial ... action in the use of some of these ... At the close of the month Class I, ... though supply lines were much too long ...

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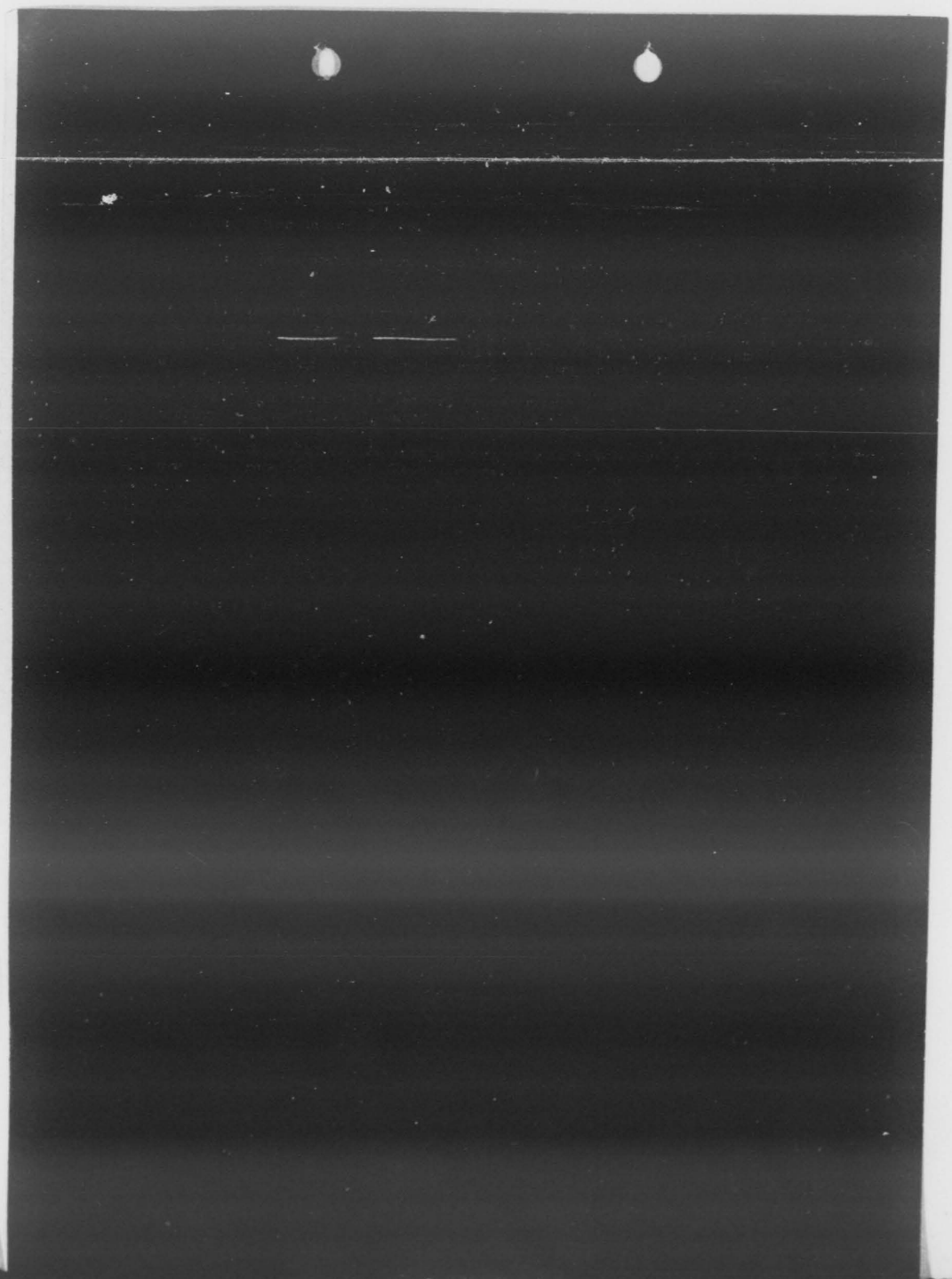

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B. M. Cagle

Classification changed to
RESTRICTED 22 MAY 1946
by authority of AC of S, G-2, WDGS
by Ray M. Stroupe
RAY M. STROUPE
Capt., Inf

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO [illegible], U.S. Army

AG 314.7

SUBJECT: Historical Record, Headquarters VI Corps, 1-10 May 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, 25, D. C. (Thru Channels).

INTRODUCTION

1. Active operations of VI Corps in Europe finally came to an end on 6 May 1945 after 524 days of combat against German forces - in Italy, France, Germany and Austria - since 9 September 1943. Before the final unconditional surrender of all hostile forces on the Corps front, leading troops had advanced over the southern borders of Austria and through the [illegible] to effect a junction with troops of Fifth Army in Italy, the country where VI Corps had received its baptism of fire - on the beaches of Salerno twenty months before.

2. When the month of May opened VI Corps was already South of the Austro-German border on the western half of the front in the area South of [illegible] (0-2390) and moving rapidly toward the border along the rest of the front. The Corps order of battle had the 103d Infantry Division attacking toward MITTEN WALD (0-6677) and INNSBRUCK (0-7681) on the left, elements of the 10th Armored Division at LE MOOS (-3771) in the center, and the 34th Infantry Division between [illegible] (0-1473) and [illegible] on the right. The main forces of the 10th Armd Division were assembled at [illegible] (-2242) and the 101st Airborne Division was policing the rear areas and guarding the two flanks. There was no known enemy order of battle since the rout of hostile forces during the VI Corps' 200-mile advance to the Austrian border in the last twelve days of April.

3. During the succeeding five days the 103d Division moved south to occupy INNSBRUCK, clear the INN river valley between [illegible] (0-[illegible]) and [illegible] (0-2242) and press South from INNSBRUCK through the BRENNER Pass into Italy to make an historic junction with Fifth Army troops at [illegible] (-0617) on 4 May. Meanwhile as the 10th Armd Division reverted to Corps Reserve in the INNSBRUCK area, the 34th Division advanced south from [illegible] through the narrow Alpine passes of western Austria to clear the [illegible] Valley between [illegible] and IMST (0-[illegible]) and continue south to [illegible], and west to HARRAH (0-[illegible]).

4. The climax of VI Corps' [illegible] campaign in Europe came on the [illegible] City Hall of [illegible] where major general [illegible], Commander, acting for the [illegible] and eventual Army Commander, accepted the unconditional surrender of [illegible] General [illegible] of the Nineteenth German Army, remnants of which fought the VI Corps troops from [illegible] to the west flank. The scattered remaining units of the [illegible] front officially ceased at 1200, the next day, after the [illegible] and [illegible] the German Army Group [illegible] and all of the Alpine [illegible].

1 May

1. The VI Corps advance to the [illegible] passes leading towards [illegible] and [illegible] continued throughout [illegible] with considerable

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difficulty with blown bridges, roadblocks and demolitions on the axes of advance. Physical contact with the [illegible] was limited to the vicinity of [illegible] (D-3867) and SCHAUNITZ (D-4071) where [illegible] Other minor obstacles was encountered, while elements [illegible] several battalion size groups of enemy surrendered [illegible] prisoners of war were processed [illegible] during the period.

2. On the eastern half of the Corps front, one regiment of the 11th Division continued to press the attack with towards the [illegible] The 407th Inf passed through elements of CP "A" in the vicinity of [illegible] (D-3842) after a blown bridge had been repaired by C Co, 11th Engr Bn. [illegible] troops of the 3 Hungarian Div surrendered en masse. Continuing south, the 407th Inf found SCHAUNITZ clear, [illegible] on a road block on the main road leading north to trap any German forces retreating from the [illegible] sector, and then crossed the Austrian border [illegible] 27 March, mid-morning. The northern outskirts of SCHAUNITZ shell [illegible] and fire developed at the town was quickly secured. Further advances were temporarily checked by a blown bridge over the [illegible] River on the southwestern outskirts of [illegible] but by the close of the period a [illegible] had been formed on the west bank despite sniper and SP gun fire, and elements were preparing to renew the attack southward. The 107th Cav Gp [illegible] (-Trp A) maintained contact with elements of XV Corps on the left flank [illegible] advanced overnight to the [illegible] area. Task Force Hay (110th Inf [illegible]) moved southwest out of KATZELSDORF with the mission of reconnoitering [illegible] River Valley, but were held up by a landslide in the vicinity of D-3077. The 111th Inf and a battalion of the 106th Inf remained assembled [illegible] (-1/6), while the 3rd Bn of the latter regiment moved to assembly [illegible] at GROSS (-0A) and OBERWOLTEN (D-0763) 1/.

3. On the western half of the Corps front, the 11th Division encountered fairly stiff opposition in the vicinity of [illegible] PASS, but was able to make more than local gains, while elsewhere on the Division front, craters and road blocks slowed the advance. On the left, elements of the 71st Inf moving southwest of LANGEGG passed through elements of CCB, 10th Armd Division and renewed the attack to clear the [illegible] PASS and the PASS (D-3867) area. In this general locality a series of strong road blocks and landslides covered by sniper, machine gun, panzerfaust, mortar and 88mm and 128mm gun fire limited progress to local gains after a day of fighting. However the road block at D-3667 had been reduced and a considerable portion of the resistance in this area cleared out by the end of the period. The tortuous, difficult terrain was such that it was practically impossible to employ by-passing tactics. Other elements of the 71st Inf reconnoitered the secondary roads east and south of LANGEGG in search of additional axes to press the attack, but found them impassable at D-5167 and D-3466 due to natural causes and neglected maintenance. On the right, a force of the 11th Inf pressed the attack South from the vicinity of FORCHACH (D-1473) and against scattered resistance swept rapidly along the axis [illegible]BACH (D-1363) - [illegible] (D-1264) - UNTER SCHOCKAU (D-1361). From the road junction at D-11362, elements moved Southeast down the valley towards [illegible] (D-1753). The advance was impeded principally by road blocks at [illegible] and at D-12668, and a blown bridge just North of [illegible]. Following troops of the 11th Inf cleared the East-West roads from D-1[illegible]3 - D-2[illegible] and D-1[illegible]1-D-0[illegible]2), capturing an entire enemy infantry battalion at D-2000 and 300 additional prisoners at VORD-HOFNBACH (D-1467). The 32d Inf assembled a battalion at each of the following towns during the period: [illegible] (D-1207),

1/. RJ, 1 May - Entries #16, 25, 30, 32, 34, 40, 53, 56, 60 and 75.
[illegible]

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BERG (D-1291) and REUTTE (D-2481) 2/.

4. Combat Commands "A" and "B" of the 10th Armd Division assembled in GARMISCH (D-5282) and LERMOOS after being passed through by troops of the 103d and 44th Divisions, respectively. CC "R" remained in an assembly area at GARMISCH while elements of the 90th Cav Rcn Sq moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of ROTTENBUCH (Y-4209).

5. The 101st Airborne Division took over the mission of protecting the Corps right flank Northwest of WERTACH (D-0192), with the 502d Prcht Inf relieving the 324th Inf from WERTACH to KEMPTEN (X-9406), and the 506th Prcht Inf commencing to police the Corps rear areas for by-passed enemy groups. The 327th Glider Inf closed in the SCHONGAU (Y-3617) area early in the period.

6. There was no air activity during the period, either friendly or hostile.

7. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 148 of this date was received, directing VI Corps: (a) to move the 101st Airborne Division (with 813th TD Bn, 774th Tk Bn, 397th QM Trk Co and 53d QM DUKW Bn atchd) to an area designated by the Commanding General XXI Corps by 040001B May, the division to be relieved from attachment to VI Corps on arrival; (b) to capture LANDECK (V-3944) and block the RESIA Pass (V-3122); (c) after capturing INNSBRUCK to send strong reconnaissance through the BRENNER Pass. Effective immediately the boundary between Seventh Army (VI Corps right flank) and First French Army was changed to run: (KEMPTEN (X-9406) - HOFEN (D-0982) - HINTERHORNBACH (D-0566) - HAGERAU (C-9453) - KAPP (V-2537) - NAUDERS - RESIA Pass (V-3312) (all towns to VI Corps); the left boundary was extended to the Southeast from WALLGAU (D-6786) to JENBACH (E-0474) 3/.

2 May

1. Advance elements of both the 103d and 44th Divisions continued to press forward towards the INN River Valley during 2 May. Taking advantage of the excellent opportunity afforded for delaying action by employing demolitions and defended road blocks in the narrow defiles of the Alpine passes, the enemy appreciably added to the natural obstacles of difficult terrain and bad weather to temporarily slow our advance towards IMST and INNSBRUCK. The two principal points of contact were in the FERN Pass and North of LEITHEN (D-6360), but a well executed envelopment of the rear and a short fire fight succeeded in finally overcoming the resistance in FERN Pass. Corps artillery remained generally inactive although some missions were fired in support of the attacks of the 71st and 409th Infs. More than 3700 prisoners were processed through PW cages of Corps units during the day.

2. On the Corps left flank in the 103d Division sector the 409th Inf, with supporting tanks and tank destroyers, pushed Southwest from SCHARNITZ and occupied SEEFELD (D-6165) without opposition, although passage of motorized elements was delayed by a road crater North of the town. One column of the 409th Inf continuing Southeast from SEEFELD met light sniper fire while enroute to REITH (D-6261) where considerable small arms, bazooka and scattered mortar fire from woods on either side of the town delayed the advance until this resistance had been mopped up. After securing REITH, the column was engaged by the enemy in a fire

2/. WRJ, 1 May - Entries #27, 29, 36, 47, 50, 65, 69, 73 and 74.

3/. Annex No. 12.

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fight at D-627618; upon neutralizing this resistance, positions were consolidated in the vicinity for the night. Another column of the 409th Inf moving southwest from SEEFELD reached D-589629 where a road block was cleared, after which the advance proceeded into MOSTEN (D-[illegible]62) without opposition. Remaining elements of the 409th Inf were motorized and moved to a forward assembly area in SEEFELD, prepared to follow the eastern column towards [illegible]. Elements of the 1[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the road impassable. The 411th Inf and the [illegible] Inf (-3d Bn) moved to assembly areas in the vicinity of MITTENWALD, while remaining elements of the 410th closed in PARTENKIRCHEN 4/.

3. On the Corps right flank, progress of the 44th Division was mainly hampered by a partially demolished bridge at C-92[illegible] and a stubbornly resisting group in the FERN Pass sector where attempts to dislodge the enemy were finally meeting with success after [illegible] hours of fighting. On the left, a 71st Inf night patrol to FERNSTEIN (D-32[illegible]) encountered approximately 200 enemy and met with initial success by capturing 70 without a fight, but a sudden change of the enemy's attitude evidenced by small arms, panzerfaust and 88mm SP gun fire forced the patrol to withdraw. Elements of the 71st Inf continued to engage the estimated 7[illegible]0 dug-in enemy employing small arms, machine gun, mortar and panzerfaust fire to cover the series of road craters in the vicinity of [illegible]. However, a well executed outflanking movement to the east over perilous mountain terrain in the face of small arms, machine gun, panzerfaust and 1[illegible]0mm arty fire succeeded in cutting the road at D-32[illegible] and enabled elements of the 71st Inf to engage the fanatical and tenacious enemy in a fire fight to their rear, resulting in many enemy casualties and prisoners, and the overpowering of this strongly organized position. Although a subsequent link-up was made with forces to the North, at D-33[illegible], scattered pockets still resisting with machine gun fire remained to be cleaned up as the period closed. Prisoner hauls in this sector identified elements of the 47th VG Division, Battle Group WEBBER and miscellaneous Naval, AA and Mtn units. On the right a small force of the 114th Inf advancing Southeast down the STREIM BACH Valley occupied BODEN (D-175[illegible]) and pushed East to D-190[illegible] without contacting the enemy. The road was found to be impassable except for foot troops and efforts were being made to open it for vehicular traffic. Passing through forward positions of the 114th Inf at UNTER SCHONAU (D-070[illegible]93), the 44th Cav Rcn Tr reconnoitered southwest down the LECH River Valley towards WARTH (C-3[illegible]4) and reached C-92[illegible] where a partially destroyed bridge coupled with resistance from a small group of Hitler Jugend (Hitler Youth) held up further progress. The 324th Inf remained assembled at BERG (D-1291), STEINACH (D-1239) and REUTTE (D-2[illegible]1) 5/.

4. In Corps Reserve, the 10th Armd Division remained assembled in the GARMISCH - LEMMOOS Areas. The 101st Airborne Division continued to police rear areas of the Corps zone and at 1330B the 506th Prcht Inf commenced movement to the XXI Corps zone.

5. There was no air support activity during the period, but single Me-109s flew on recon missions over the [illegible] and the SEEFELD - GARMISCH areas at 1200B and 19[illegible]B. Both planes were engaged by AA but no results were claimed.

6. VI Corps Operations Instruction No. 89 was issued at 1200B, directing: (a) the 101st Airborne Division to move to the XXI Corps area by 040001B May, the division to be relieved of attachment to VI Corps on closing in the new area and the 117th Cav Rcn Sq to be relieved of attachment to the division and

4/. WRJ, 2 May - Entries #9 (STEINGADEN CP), 5, 13, 2[illegible] and 31 (PARTENKIRCHEN CP).

5/. WRJ, 2 May - Entries #9 (STEINGADEN CP), 2, 12, 15, 17, 28 and 37 (PARTENKIRCHEN C); WRJ, 3 May - Entries #18 and [illegible]0.

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attached to the 115th Cav Group at 031200B; (b) the [illegible]th Division to continue present mission, secure LANDECK (V-39[illegible]) and block the RESIA Pass; (c) the 103d Division to continue present mission; the 11[illegible] [illegible] attachment to the division at 031200B; (d) the 115th Cav Group (with 117th Cav Rcn Sq atchd) to secure and pplice the area bounded generally by KEMPTEN, KAUFBEUREN, SCHONGAU, SAULGRUM, FUSSEN, [illegible]TACH, coordinating with the Commanding General 35th AAA Brigade 6/.

7. The VI Corps CP closed at STEINGADEN and opened in PARTENKIRCHEN (D-[illegible]382) at 0930B.

3 May

1. Roadblocks, craters and heavy unseasonal snows were the principal obstacles on 3 May to advances of the [illegible]th and 103d Divisions through the towering Austrian Alps and into the INN River Valley. However, after Austrian Partisans seized control of INNSBRUCK and the upper INN River Valley, west to IMST, late in the afternoon the light resistance which had been retarding progress in the vicinity of ZIRL collapsed and troops thereafter advanced unopposed to INNSBRUCK and to within four kilometers of IMST, finding the highways free of all obstacles.

2. In the 103d Division sector on the left half of the Corps front, two columns of the 409th Inf pressed the attack generally South from S[illegible] (D-616[illegible]) towards the fertile INN River Valley. One motorized column moving Southeast was delayed by several 2[illegible]-foot road craters and eight mined abatis just South of REITH (D-6261), and similar obstacles at D-645600 but foot elements easily by-passed these obstacles and broke clear of the mountains in mid-morning to enter the INN River Valley, receiving only machine gun fire from the vicinity of the railroad to the East while enroute. Encountering [illegible] armes on the road, the column contacted the [illegible] at ZIRL (D-[illegible]) where approximately 200 Germans fought a light action with small arms and mortar fire, [illegible] resistance completely collapsed during mid-afternoon, right after [illegible] of INNSBRUCK and the INN River Valley as far west as IMST by Austrian Partisans. With INNSBRUCK being declared an open city, tank-mounted infantry of the 409th swept East from ZIRL, finding the highway clear of all obstacles, and seized control of INNSBRUCK before nightfall. The other column of the [illegible] moved unopposed on the axis NOSERN (D-[illegible]) - [illegible] (D-[illegible]), motorized elements being held up by roadblocks and 80-100 foot craters at D-[illegible]0627 and D-[illegible]. [illegible] was entered at 091[illegible]B and seized without a fight, thirty prisoners being taken and the bridge over the INN River at D-[illegible]12 being seized intact. Leaving security detachments in [illegible] and the vicinity, this column raced East along the excellent highway to join other [illegible] of the regiment at INNSBRUCK. No resistance or obstacles were encountered and another [illegible], at D-[illegible], was captured intact. By the close of the period, motorized elements [illegible] through INNSBRUCK and were moving East and Northeast with the mission of reaching the VI Corps - XII Corps boundary and making contact with elements of the latter Corps. The 410th Inf assembled in [illegible] (D-[illegible]), preparing to move to the INNSBRUCK area as soon as traffic conditions permitted, while elements cleared the Valley running [illegible] west towards [illegible] (D-[illegible]). Having been assembled at [illegible] during the day, the [illegible] Inf commenced movement at 2100B via ZIRL to INNSBRUCK and at the close of the period was sweeping South unopposed towards [illegible] and the [illegible] Pass with the mission of making contact with units of the 1[illegible]th Army [illegible] in Italy, in accordance with Seventh Army orders. It was reported that Allied troops in Northern Italy were moving to the Italian border, towards [illegible] and an historical junction [illegible]

6/. Annex No. 11

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Eminent. Despite the lac[k] of covers [illegible] about [illegible] were taken by the divis[ion].

3. [illegible] the western half o[f] [illegible] bridges as well as snowslides and [illegible], [illegible] roads. [illegible] two instances was contact actually [illegible] of the road, [illegible] members of enemy continued to surrender [illegible]. The enemy [illegible] in the vicinity of F-[illegible] was a [illegible] road block and a [illegible] (D-1300) with motorized [illegible] out of the [illegible] moved unopposed to [illegible] and by 12[illegible] had occupied [illegible]. [illegible] await contact with the [illegible] River Valley [illegible] at [illegible], the entire advance [illegible] small arms fire [illegible] overcome in the 3-kool grid squares. [illegible] and overtook an enemy [illegible] vehicles [illegible] in the vicinity of D-[illegible]. [illegible] subsequent one kmart [illegible] captured and the remainder were dispersed. This column proceeded [illegible] D-3057 where blocking positions were established for the night. [illegible] Front Line, the 111th Inf (-) remained in positions along the [illegible] D-[illegible] to D-1863, with elements [illegible] over the blocking [illegible] Div on [illegible] at [illegible] RAU (C-[illegible]) and [illegible] area operation in the v[illegible] (-1[illegible]), the activities o[illegible] obscured by [illegible] difficulties. The 32[illegible] Inf (-) remained [illegible] (D-[illegible]) [illegible] (D-2830) while elements at [illegible] (-3471) proceed to [illegible] Pass upon completion of the [illegible] at -3466. During the day a total of 1066 prisoners were picked up 7/.

4. The other major units of VI Corps had no contact with the enemy. The 10th Armd Division remained assembled [illegible] and 92d Prcht Inf of the 103d Airborne Divis[ion] remained assembled in the [illegible] area while the 327th Glider Inf commenced movement to the XXI Corps area. The 91st Cav Sq and the 117th Cav Ron Sq were relieved from attachment to the 103d Division and attached to the 85th Div at [illegible] for security [illegible] the area FAURSMUREN (Y-1523), [illegible] -3677) - [illegible] (D-2570) - [illegible] (X-7505).

5. There was no aerial activity, either friendly or hostile, [illegible] day.

6. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 150 of this date was received, directing VI Corps to reconnoiter [illegible] the [illegible] Pass area for the [illegible] Border to contact units of the Fifteenth Army Group 9/.

Navy

1. With the exception of a stubborn [illegible]y-resisting group of [illegible] - countered Southwest of DIST by the 103d Division, enemy opposition [illegible] disintegrated on the VI Corps front during the night 2 May as sweeping advances were made again. Elements of the 103d Division moved more than thirty miles [illegible] that day.

7/. [illegible], 3 May - Entries #3, 8, 22, [illegible], 37, 42, [illegible], 52, 62 and [illegible].

8/. RJ, 3 May - Entries #4, 37, 40, 42, 50, 51, 60 and 69.

9/. Annex No. 12.

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the INN River Valley and contacted the XXI Corps while another force plunged South from INNSBRUCK, through the BRENNER Pass, into Italy where an historic junction was made with elements of the Fifth Army's 88th Infantry Division at VIPITENO. Having received information that agents of Field Marshal KESSELRING were endeavoring to get through our lines for purposes of negotiating a surrender, VI Corps notified the 103d and 44th Divisions to immediately escort such agents to Corps Headquarters 10/.

2. On the eastern half of the Corps front, rapid progress was made by the 103d Division, there being no instance of physical contact with fighting enemy troops throughout the period. With the bulk of the 409th Inf remaining in INNSBRUCK, the 3d Bn struck Northeast up the INN River Valley and advanced as far as the Corps boundary in the vicinity of MAURACH (E-0573). Recon elements then continued Northeast and made contact at 2200B with XXI Corps elements in the vicinity of WORG (E-2635) after receiving a few rounds of light artillery fire in the vicinity of ROTHOLZ (E-0673) and KRAMSACH (E-1379) - the only indications of the enemy's continued presence in the division sector. Plunging South from INNSBRUCK, the 411th Inf reached BRENNER (W-1026) on the Austrian-Italian border by 0150B and found the town secured by a composite Austrian-Italian police force. Being directed by Corps to continue South, elements of the 1st Bn, 411th Inf and the 103d Cav Rcn Tr continued South approximately ten miles and made contact at 1051B with elements of the 88th Infantry Division (II Corps and Fifth Army) in VIPITENO (W-0415), Italy. On the right, elements of the 410th Inf which had cleared the LEUTASCH River Valley (D-5566 - D-6375) moved across the INN River at TELFS and mopped up along the south bank of the River to INNSBRUCK, taking a large number of prisoners who willingly capitulated. The remainder of the 410th Inf moved directly to INNSBRUCK in the morning. During the period two enemy airfields, at D-7056 and D-7959, were seized, yielding a total of 45 undamaged planes, including eighteen Me-262s (jet-propelled) and another 1265 prisoners were processed through the Division PW cage 11/.

3. On the lengthy right half of the Corps front, troops of the 44th Division pressed Southwest and Southeast and struck the only remaining determined resistance of the period, in the vicinity of MILS (V-4851). With the bulk of the 71st Inf assembling at TELFS during the day, elements blocking at D-3057 withdrew to NASSEREITH after being passed through by the 324th Inf early in the morning. Upon completion of the bridge at D-336663, elements of the 324th Inf moved Southwest from the LE MOOS area and attacked through the 71st Inf at D-3057. By 0745B IMST (D-2753) had been seized without contacting the enemy, but further progress towards LANDECK (V-3944) was halted by a strong road block in the vicinity of MILS, stubbornly defended by an estimated 150 entrenched enemy employing SP, MG and 20mm flak gun and artillery fire. Attempts to demolish the roadblock met small arms fire from the enemy on the wooded high ground in the vicinity of D-2451 - D-2[illegible]1. At the close of the period a flanking movement to the West was in progress despite mortar, flak fire - progress being very slow due to the rough terrain. The bulk of the 324th Inf closed in IMST during the day, and a force dispatched down the MUHLEN River Valley towards PILLER (V-4943) with the mission of cutting the main highway to the Southwest was last reported to be at [illegible] (V-[illegible]). The 44th Cav Rcn Tr (atchd to the 324th Inf) reconnoitered the river valleys radiating Northeast and Southeast from the IMST area, making contact with the 71st Inf at TELFS and clearing the OTZTAL[illegible] River Valley as far as Southeast as V-7041 and picked up approximately 500 enemy stragglers. On the Division right flank the 114th Inf maintained blocking positions along the [illegible] River generally from [illegible] (D-[illegible])

10/. [illegible], 4 May - Entry #17.

11/. [illegible], 4 May - Entries #18, 19, 22, 37, 52, 57 and 63.

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to STANZACH (D-1363), with a forward detachment at HAGERAU (C-9453). Elements in the vicinity of BODEN (D-1758) moved East along the draw to TARRENZ (D-2756) and seized sixty prisoners after a brief fire fight 12/.

4. In Corps Reserve, the 10th Armd Division remained assembled in the GARMISCH - PARTENKIRCHEN area with no changes in positions. Additional elements of the 101st Airborne Division cleared the VI Corps area enroute to the XXI Corps zone, while the 502d Prcht Inf remained in the [illegible] area, prepared to follow the next day.

5. At 1200B Operations Instruction No. 90 was issued to confirm earlier verbal orders which had: (a) attached the 20th Armd Inf Bn, the 115th Cav Group (with 107th and 117th Cav Rcn Sqs atchd), and the 939th FA Bn to the [illegible]th AAA Brigade; (b) attached the 69th Armd FA Bn to the 103d Division 13/.

6. Once again there was no air activity, either hostile or friendly.

5 May

1. In accordance with the negotiations for unconditional surrender of the Nineteenth German Army, all resistance along the VI Corps front West of IMST officially ceased at 1300B on 5 May. At 1555B word was received from the Seventh Army Chief of Staff, Major General ARTHUR A. WHITE, that an unconditional surrender has been negotiated with German Army Group "G" (First and Nineteenth Armies) effective at 1200B on 6 May which would affect that portion of the Corps front from IMST East to the XXI Corps boundary. In the entire Corps zone mopping up operations continued without resistance except on the western half of the front where fifty enemy in the vicinity of PILLER (V-4943) engaged elements of the 44th Division. Late in the period the 44th Division entered [illegible] (V-3944) unopposed, and contacted German officers who immediately arranged for the surrender of their troops. In all, more than 11,000 prisoners were processed in PW cages of VI Corps during the period. 14/.

2. The formal surrender of the German Nineteenth Army took place in the City Hall of INNSBRUCK, Austria, at 1[illegible]00B when Major General EDWARD H. BROOKS the Corps Commander, (in behalf of General JACOB L. DEVERS and Lieutenant General ALEXANDER M. PATCH - Commanders of the Sixth Army Group and Seventh Army respectively) accepted the surrender by Lieutenant General ERICH [illegible]-BERGER of the forces under his control. Colonel DeMETZ, Chief of Staff of the First French Army, represented General DeLATRE De TASSIGNY 15/.

3. On the eastern half of the Corps front, the 103d Division made few changes in troop dispositions and continued to mop up isolated groups of enemy, taking more than 2000 prisoners during the period. Elements of the 409th Inf moved from MAURACH (E-0522) to SCHWAZ (E-0063), while forces of the 411th Inf which had contacted the Fifth Army in Italy withdrew to BRENNER and maintained contact with 88th Division troops by motorized patrols. All other units of the Division remained in position and made no contact with the enemy 16/.

4. On the western half of the Corps front, the enemy continued his withdrawal to the South and only one instance of active resistance occurred during the day. On the left, the 71st Inf operated motorized patrols from TELFS to D-3[illegible]53 and BARWIES (D-4461) during the morning. Elements of the 324th Inf moving

12/. WRJ, 4 May - Entries #18, 27, 29, 30, 58, 59 and 62.

13/. Annex No. 11.

14/. WRJ, 5 May - Entries #10, 11 and 12 (IGLS CP).

15/. Annex No. 8 and 9.

16/. WRJ, 5 May - Entry #9 (PARTENKIRCHEN CP) and #[illegible] (IGLS CP)

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20/. Annex No. 11.
21/. Annex No. 10.
22/. Annex No. 11.

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10 May

1. VI Corps continued to occupy and police its area of responsibility during 10 May. Disarmament of the German troops continued according to the plans set out in letter, Headquarters VI Corps, 7 May 1945, File AF 370, subject: "Unconditional Surrender Administration". The only incident of the day occurred when a road block of the 36th AAA Brigade in FUSSEN picked up a German lieutenant and private, dressed in complete American uniforms and driving a 78th U. S. Division peep and carrying captured identification cards.

2. Late in the period telephonic instructions were given to the 103d and 44th Divisions to close the border between Austria, Italy and Switzerland, to remove all civilians from a zone approximately five kilometers from the border, and to establish roadblocks to prevent unauthorized movement across the border by civilians or German military personnel.

3. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 13 of this date was received, directing: (a) VI Corps to assume command of a new sector, effective at 111000B May, as follows: portions of Southern Germany and Austria bounded generally on the North by the line REMMINGEN (X-3135) - BADENHAUSEN (X-3752) - STAUFBACH (X-7564) - THANNHAUSEN (Y-0369) - AUGSBURG (Y-1033) - AICHACH (Y-1491) - SCHROETTENHAUSEN (T-0903) - POEMNHAUSEN (T-0611); on the East by the line REICHERTSHOFEN (T-7104) - SCHMIDTENHOHE (X-0677) - FREISING (Y-0000) - GRUNBACH (Z-1772) - NORTH (Z-0969) - HALLERTING (Z-0752) - AMERBACH (Z-0833) - MIESBACH (Z-0718) - AURACH (Z-1109) - LESING (X-0676) - RIED (X-1262) - JUNSBRUNN (W-2742) and thence South to the Italian border; on the South along the Austro-Italian border to the Swiss border; and on the West by MITTENWALDEN (X-7332) - KEMPTEN (X-7406) - HOFEN (Z-0932) - HINTERHORNBACH (Z-0760) - HAFERAU (Z-1458) - KAP[illegible] (V-2837) and thence South along the Swiss border; (b) VI Corps to establish prohibited frontier zones along the Austro-German, Austro-Swiss and Austro-Italian borders in sector; (c) the attachment of the 36th Infantry Division (with 636th TD Bn, 442d A A AW Bn and 753d Tk Bn attchd), the 44th Infantry Division (with 645th TD Bn, 106th AAA AW Bn and the 191st Tk Bn attchd) and the 2d French Armd Division (with attchd TD Bn) to VI Corps at 111000B; (d) that the responsibility of the Corps Commander in this new sector included; protection of supply installations, insurance of the security of railroads, main supply roads, petroleum pipe lines and critical signal installations; guarding and disposition of captured enemy material and supplies; disarmament and police of civilian population; support of the Military Government and the disciplinary control of all allied troops in the area 2/.

EXPLANATION

1. In the twenty months since the Headquarters first went into active operations on the beaches of SALERNO, Italy - the first major amphibious assault on the shores of Europe - VI Corps has driven opposing German forces back more than 1000 miles in the course of its various campaigns.

2. After securing the Salerno beachhead, VI Corps had attacked on the right flank of the Fifth Army over rugged, mountainous terrain, through AVELLINO and BENEVENTO, across the VOLTURNO River and up the valley to VENAFRO before the advance bogged down on the GUSTAV Winter Line, just south of ROME (See Map 1).

3. The second campaign was the ANZIO beachhead operation which resulted in a [illegible] south slope on the main positions of the GUSTAV and the

2/. See No. 12.

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[redacted] about 1[redacted] May 1[redacted] and the subsequent rapid advance to [redacted] River.

4. [redacted] Pushing the Seventh Army [redacted] point, VI Corps [redacted] the [redacted] Riviera [redacted] Allied [redacted] Southern France on 1 [redacted] 1[redacted] and then followed the rapid [redacted]-mile advance to the [redacted] River [redacted] over [redacted] roads.

5. [redacted] After a [redacted] halt on the Western Brenner of the [redacted], [redacted] the first conquest [redacted] history of [redacted] Gothic barrier, reached the [redacted] River at [redacted] and then moved on to Linz, Upper Austria, and cross the Austrian frontier by mid-November, where the final situation on the entire [redacted] front - caused by the [redacted] breakthrough - dictated a [redacted] over them to break through the [redacted] line.

6. During the ordered withdrawal from Upper Alsace in January 19[redacted] [redacted], some of the fiercest [redacted] its history before the [redacted] enemy onslaught. More [redacted] stopped and driven back [redacted] River line.

7. The six-week period of [redacted] and VI Corps attacked across the [redacted] again cleared Alsace, broke through the Siegfried Line, participated in the clearing of the Rhine Valley [redacted] and then moved across the Main River. Then, after being slowed down for two weeks in the mountainous attack down the Neckar River valley, VI Corps finally broke through and raced 250 miles through South western Germany, through Austria and the Brenner Pass and back into ITALY to wind up its operations.

8. During the first eight days of May, prior to the announcement of V-E Day in Europe, VI Corps had captured another 40,807 Prisoners of War to raise the total number taken last of the Rhine since 1 April to 131,307, and the grand total since [redacted] to a cool [redacted].

[redacted]
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

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ANNEXES TO VI CORPS HISTORY - 1-10 MAY 1945

#1 - Casualty Report of VI Corps Troops - 1-10 May 1945
#2A- Roster of Officers, Hq VI Corps, 10 May 1945
2B- Changes in Officer Personnel, Hq VI Corps, 1-10 May 1945
#3 - Report of Strength, Battle Casualties, Decorations and Awards, Hq, Hq Co, Comp Serv Co and MP Plat, VI Corps - 1-10 May 1945
#4 - Photographs (with orig only)
#5 - VI Corps Combat Troop List, 3 May 1945
#6 - Changes in Troop Attachments and Detachments, Hq VI Corps - 1-10 May 1945
#7 - VI Corps G.O. No. 29, Activation of the Composite Service Company, VI Corps; Augmentation of the MP Plat, VI Corps - 2 May 1945
#8 - VI Corps Staff Memo, Ceremony for Surrender, 4 May 1945
#9 - True copy of Terms of Surrender negotiated by VI Corps with 19th German Army - 5 May 1945 (with orig only)
#10A- VI Corps Ltr, Unconditional Surrender Administration (for U.S. Div Commanders and 35th AAA Brig), 7 May 1945
10B- VI Corps Ltr, Unconditional Surrender Administration (for Ln Officers with 19th German Army), 7 May 1945
#11 - VI Corps Operations Instructions Nos. 89 thru 93, inclusive - 1-10 May 1945 (with orig only)
#12 - 7th Army Operations Instructions Nos. 148, 150, 151 and 153 - 1-10 May 1945 (with orig only)
#13 - Map of VI Corps Route of Advance - May 1945
#14 - Photographs of G-2 and G-3 Daily Situation Maps - 1 thru 7 May 1945 (with orig only)

UNDER SEPARATE COVER: (1 copy only)

#15 - G-1 Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#16 - G-2 Journals (including G-2 Reports and Intelligence Bulletins), 1-10 May 1945
#17 - War Room Journals, 1-10 May 1945
#18 - VI Corps G-3 Reports, 1-10 May 1945
#19 - G-4 Journal with Supporting Papers, 1-10 May 1945
#20 - G-5 Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#21 - AG Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#22 - QM Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#23 - Ord Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#24 - IG Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#25 - SJA Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#26 - Fin Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#27 - SSO Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#28 - Chaplain Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#29 - CWS - Ln Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#30 - Surgeon Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#31 - Signal Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#32 - Engineer Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#33 - PM Journal, 1-10 May 1945
#34 - G-3 Reports, S-3 Reports, Field Orders, [illegible], etc. of VI Corps Troops and Other Headquarters.

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CASUALTY REPORT OF VI CORPS ENEMY - 1-10 MAY 1945

Date for pd ending 2359	Killed	Captured, Missing and Interned	Wounded	Non-Battle Casualties	Reinforcements and RTUs	Enemy PWs Captured
1 May	9	2	31	105	350	12,896
2 "	14	5	90	97	18	6,635
3 "	4	3	25	70	24	3,616
4 "	7	0	38	63	7	2,508
5 "	2	4	2	91	91	5,742
6 "	1	0	0	114	24	3,711
7 "	1	0	0	102	356	4,185
8 "	0	0	0	70	51	3,382
9 "	*1	0	*1-	61	473	2,127
10 "	0	0	0	92	71	**1,636
TOTALS	39	14	187	865	1,465	46,438

* Not in Action.
** German Displaced Persons

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

10 May 1945.

SECTION I ASSIGNED OFFICERS AND WARRANT OFFICERS

COMMANDING GENERAL

Major General Edward H. Brooks, 06657, U. S. A.
Capt Walter T. Wilson, 01010197, Inf (ADC)
Capt William W. Hersey, 01013799, Inf (ADC)

CHIEF OF STAFF

Brigadier General Charles D. Palmer, 015519, GSC

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

Col Paul A. Chalmers, 013239, GSC

LIAISON OFFICERS

Maj James C. Grimes, 0391443, FA (Benchhead News)
Capt Leo M. Armstrong, 0405177, Inf
1st Lt Paul W. Stephani, 01165960, FA
1st Lt Curtis M. O'Sullivan, 01163016, FA

G-1 SECTION

Lt Col John W. Wibel, 0339093, GSC
Maj Robert G. Perriello, 0389394, GSC
Capt William A. Garden, 01296511, Inf

G-2 SECTION

Col Joseph L. Langevin, 012640, GSC
Lt Col Don W. Dixon, 0343066, GSC
Maj Edward L. Dobbins, 0452060, Inf
Capt Joseph Haines III, 01284699, Inf
Capt Richard G. Young, 0407475, Inf

G-3 SECTION

Col Albert O. Connor, 020699, GSC
Lt Col Michael S. Davison, 022051, GSC
Maj John L. Cooper, 0351994, Cav
Maj William E. Rose, 03520h2, CAC (Air-Ground Ln O)
Maj John Schadler Jr, 0383957, QMC
Maj Edward H. Murray, 0452479, Inf (I & E O) (TD US)
Capt Albert A. Tryon, 01100363, CE
Capt James J. Harrington Jr, 0461327, Inf
Capt Kenneth B. Floto, 01305228, Inf
1st Lt Arthur J. Foley, 0407726, Cav (Asst Air-Ground Ln O)
1st Lt Howell C. Henderson, 01287349, Inf (TD US)

ANNEX #2A

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G-4 SECTION

Col Burton E. Miles, 0347690, GSC
Maj Robert E. Clark, 0910354, GSC
Maj Ralph L. Harper, 0303227, Inf
Maj William H. Ferguson, 01165013, FA
Capt Harold F. Pacha, 01310486, Inf
Capt Orris R. Evers, 02046557, CWS (TD US)

G-5 SECTION

Capt Richard Hall, 01797639, CMP

ADJUTANT GENERAL SECTION

Col Michael L. Connors, 0309882, AGD
Maj Harry S. Alcorn, 01000079, AGD
Maj Courtney L. Vallentine, 01000884, AGD
Capt William F. Rickett, 02055429, AGD
1st Lt Edward G. May, 01043002, CE
WOJG George T. Smith Jr, W-2108260

ARMORED SECTION

Lt Col Theodore G. Bilbo, 019477, FA

CHAPLAIN SECTION

Col William E. King, 0268277, Ch Corps
Lt Col Jordan E. Brown, 0402849, Ch Corps
CWO Francis M. Hugavin, W-2109915

CHEMICAL SECTION

Lt Col William C. Hammond Jr, 0270407, CWS
Maj Floyd B. Mitman Jr, 025330, CWS

ENGINEER SECTION

Col William N. Thomas Jr, 07648, CE
Lt Col Robert H. Darling, 0316638, CE
Capt Joseph M. Devine, 0421809, CE
Capt Edgar D. Lee, 0456581, CE
2d Lt Frank C. Little, 02009673, CE

FINANCE SECTION

Col Howard L. Leighton, 0124567, FD
Capt Frederick H. Dietz, 01280038, FD

INSPECTOR GENERAL SECTION

Col Nyal L. Adams, 07471, IGD
Lt Col James M. Pennycuick, 0307472, IGD
Capt William L. Mosher, 0409568, IGD (TD US)

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JUDGE ADVOCATE SECTION

Col Robert L. Lancefield, 018037, JAGD
Maj Jack M. Cotton, 0293310, JAGD

MEDICAL SECTION

Col Oliver W. Greer, 0200543, MC
Lt Col Walker Stamps, 0357847, MC
Maj Sigfrid G. Kinkopf, 0454084, MAC (TD US)
Maj James L. Rounds, 0490026, MAC
WOJG Donald L. Sutliff, W-2108239

ORDNANCE SECTION

Col Walter G. Jennings, 0174217, Ord Dept
Lt Col John P. Merrill, 0181405, Ord Dept
Maj Stanley M. Smolensky, 025333, Ord Dept (TD US)
Maj Benjamin F. Swank Jr, 0403163, Ord Dept
Capt Henry J. Egal, 01549932, Ord Dept
CWO Edward C. Kelly, W-2114233

PROVOST MARSHAL SECTION

Maj Mario T. Villanti, 0427369, CMP
Capt Sam F. Doering, 0409112, CMP
1st Lt William H. Scott, 01285125, CMP
1st Lt Philip W. Marsh, 01796124, CMP

QUARTERMASTER SECTION

Lt Col James G. Hattox, 0276850, QMC
Maj John A. Bradish, 0284157, QMC
1st Lt Herbert R. Southworth, 01579157, QMC
1st Lt Paul A. Baltes, 01112549, CE

SIGNAL SECTION

Lt Col Carmon L. Clay, 0367907, Sig C
Maj Wilbur D. Vincent, 0378299, Sig C
Capt Willard W. Jensen, 0454648, Sig C
Capt Luther D. Bridgman, 01635621, Sig C

SPECIAL SERVICE SECTION

Capt Daniel T. Fogarty, 01822550, FA

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT

Lt Col Leonard C. Cooke, 0316938, CAC

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HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Capt Paul B. McGuire, 01285788, Inf
Capt Robert M. Ferrell, 01697057, MC
Capt Isidore Nemerowsky, 01690212, DC
1st Lt Guy E. Norbury, 01031352, Cav

COMPOSITE SERVICE COMPANY

1st Lt Benjamin J. Pulley Jr, 01299470, Inf
1st Lt Lawson A. Cheatham, 01315786, Inf

MILITARY POLICE PLATOON

1st Lt Christopher Burke, 01306926, CMP
2d Lt Dee L. Hedrick, 02009651, CMP

SECTION II

ATTACHED FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS

G-2 SECTION

Capt Lauren C. Kingman Jr, 0863398, AC
Capt Charles B. Metcalfe, 0913249, AC
Capt Arthur J. Petersen, 01103354, AC (Photo Int)
Capt Alfred G. Pundt, 01052530, CAC
Capt Charles Marshall, 01014422, Inf

G-5 SECTION

Maj Enrico Dell'Osso, 0257798, Inf

ENGINEER SECTION

Capt Ivan A. Reiner, 01100297, CE

LIAISON SECTION

2d Lt Pierre-Etienne de Viel Castel (French)

ETOUSA OBSERVER

Col Christian Hildebrand, 012450, Inf

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Mr Don N. Allen (Asst Field Director)

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

CHANGES IN OFFICER PERSONNEL - 1-10 MAY 1945

I - ASSIGNMENTS; ATTACHMENTS

Date	Officer	Remarks
6	1st Lt Curtis H. O'Sullivan, FA	Asgd & Jd fr 645th TD Bn
9	Lt Col Theodore G. Bilbo, FA	Atchd fr 11th Armd Div

II - RELIEF FROM ASSIGNMENT; DETACHMENTS

8	Maj Campbell Dickson, Spec Res	Reld fr atchmt - Departed for 6th Army Group
10	Capt William H. Davidson, AC	Reld fr atchmt - Rot to 64th Fighter Wing
	1st Lt Baddia J. Rashid, AC	" " " " " "

III - PROMOTIONS

5	1st Lt William F. Rickett, AGD	Prom to Captain, eff 1 May

IV - MISCELLANEOUS

6	Maj Edward M. Murray, Inf	TD in U.S.A. for 45 days rest and recuperation
10	Lt Col Theodore G. Bilbo, FA	Reld fr asgmt 11th Armd Div and fr atchmt Hq VI Corps - Asgd Hq VI Corps

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S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 446, U. S. Army

1-10 MAY 1945

REPORT OF STRENGTH, BATTLE CASUALTIES, DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

I. STRENGTH:

Hq VI Corps:

		Assigned	Attached	Total	Net Change
Officers	1 May 45 -	78	12	90	
	10 May 45 -	80	9	89	-1
Warrant O's	1 May 45 -	4	0	4	
	10 May 45 -	4	0	4	0

Hq Co VI Corps:

Officers	1 May 45 -	8	0	8	
	10 May 45 -	6	0	6	-2
EM	1 May 45 -	309	26	335	
	10 May 45 -	253	27	280	-55

Comp Serv Co VI Corps:

Officers	6 May 45 -	2	0	2	
	10 May 45 -	2	0	2	0
EM	6 May 45 -	57	0	57	
	10 May 45 -	57	0	57	0

MP Plat VI Corps:

Officers	1 May 45 -	2	0	2	
	10 May 45 -	2	0	2	0
EM	1 May 45 -	77	0	77	
	10 May 45 -	76	0	76	-1

II. BATTLE CASUALTIES:

Hq VI Corps: NONE.

Hq Co VI Corps: NONE.

Comp Serv Co VI Corps: NONE.

MP Plat VI Corps: NONE.

III. DECORATIONS AND AWARDS:

Hq VI Corps: AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

OLIVER W. GREER, 0200543, Colonel, Medical Corps. Presented on 7 May 1945 in Austria. (VI Corps G.O. No. 31, 6 May 1945).

S E C R E T

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ANNEX #1

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AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO
THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

ALFRED G. PUNDT, 01052530, Captain,
CAC, Hq ETOUSA MIS (attached Hq VI Corps).
Presented on 7 May 1945 in Austria.
(VI Corps G.O. No. 31, 6 May 1945)

Hq Co VI Corps: NONE.

Comp Serv Co VI Corps: NONE.

MP Plat VI Corps: NONE.

1 Incl.
VI Corps G.O. No. 31,
6 May 1945.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

~~GENERAL ORDERS~~) 6 May 1945.

NUMBER 31)

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....I
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....II
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL.....III
AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL AND THE FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER THERETO.....IV

I AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals:

WILLIAM F. DEAN, 015453, Major General, United States Army, 44th Infantry Division, for meritorious service in action from 18 April to 5 May 1945 in Germany and Austria. Entered military service from California.

ANTHONY C. McAULIFFE, 012263, Major General, United States Army, 103d Infantry Division, for meritorious service in action from 20 April to 5 May 1945 in Germany and Austria. Entered United States Military Academy from West Virginia.

ALFRED G. PUNDT, 01052530, Captain, Coast Artillery Corps, Headquarters ETOUSA, Military Intelligence Service, attached Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 1 May to 5 May 1945 in Germany and Austria. Entered military service from State College, Pennsylvania.

II AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals:

OLIVER W. GREER, 0200543, Colonel, Medical Corps, Headquarters VI Corps (then 11th Armored Division), for meritorious service in connection with military operations from 15 August 1942 to 23 October 1943 in the United States. Entered military service from Indianapolis, Indiana.

SELWYN D. SMITH JR, 020194, Lieutenant Colonel, Field Artillery, 976th Field Artillery Battalion, for meritorious service in action from 27 August 1944 to 8 February 1945 in France. Entered United States Military Academy from Illinois.

III AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

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FOURTH AND FIFTH OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

ROBERT E. MILLER, 01683316, Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 93d Armored Field Artillery Battalion, from 25 October 1944 to 8 April 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Gibson City, Illinois.

THIRD AND FOURTH OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

STANLEY J. LINDBERG, 01170463, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 93d Armored Field Artillery Battalion, from 12 December 1944 to 5 April 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER

ALVA R. FOSTER, 15041380, Staff Sergeant, 93d Armored Field Artillery Battalion, from 10 January to 19 March 1945 in France. Entered military service from Sinks Grove, West Virginia.

IV AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL AND THE FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER THERETO.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Air Medal and the First Oak Leaf Cluster thereto are awarded to the following named individual for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

DAVID J. GLEASON, 0527242, Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery, 93d Armored Field Artillery Battalion, from 20 January to 9 April 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Forest, Virginia.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BROOKS:

CHARLES D. PALMER,
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

MICHAEL L. COMMONS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:
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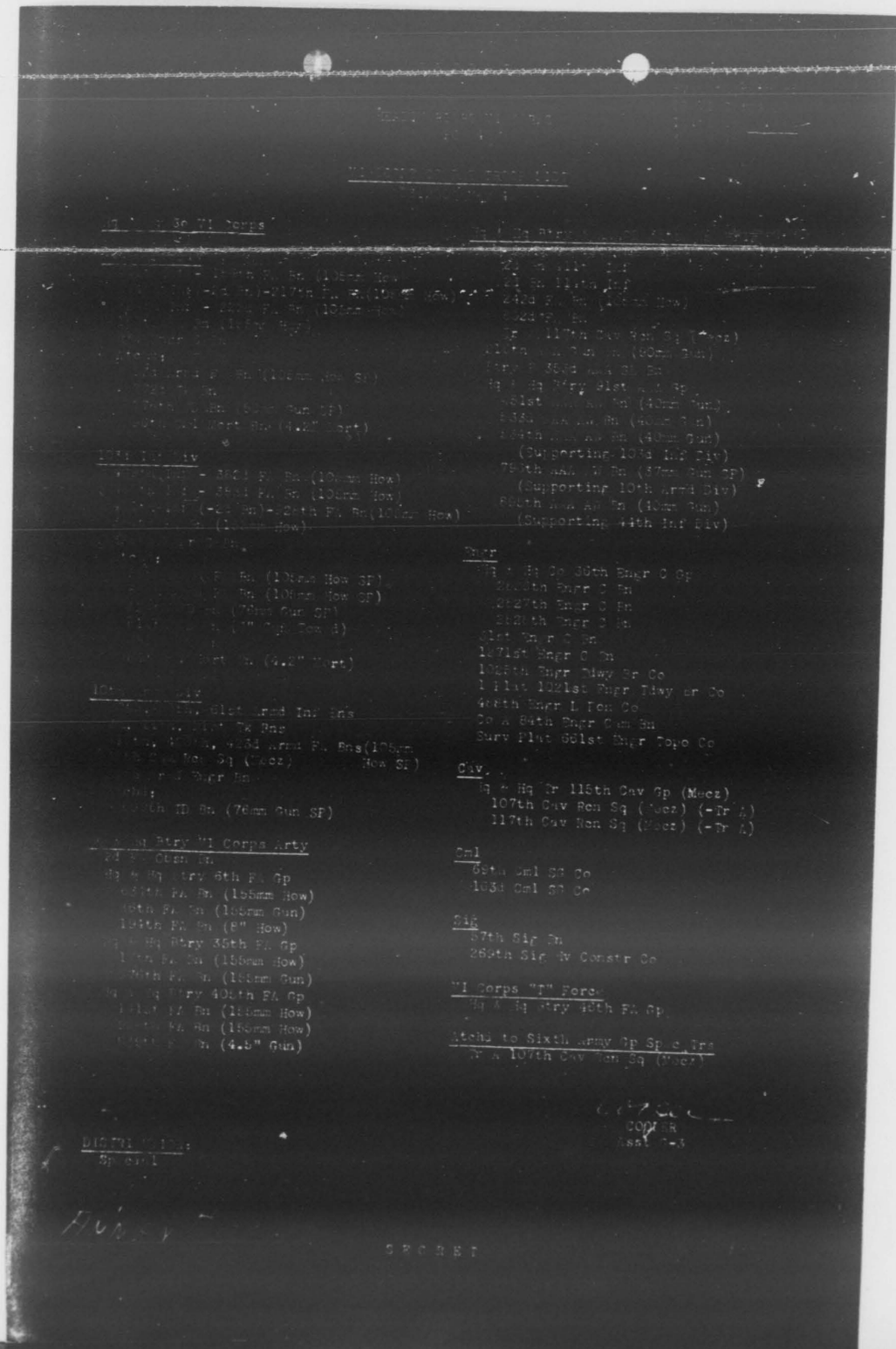

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

CHANGES IN TROOP ATTACHMENTS AND DETACHMENTS - 1-10 MAY 1945

Eff. Date	Attached	Detached
4 May	Co B, 85th Engr Hvy Ponton Bn	
5 May		216th AAA Gun Bn Btry B, 563d AAA S/L Bn
6 May		Co B, 85th Engr Hvy Ponton Bn
7 May		602d FA Bn
8 May		93d Armd FA Bn
9 May		101st Airborne Division 813th TD Bn 774th Tank Bn 397th QM Trk Co

Incls.
7th Army Attachment
and Movement Orders

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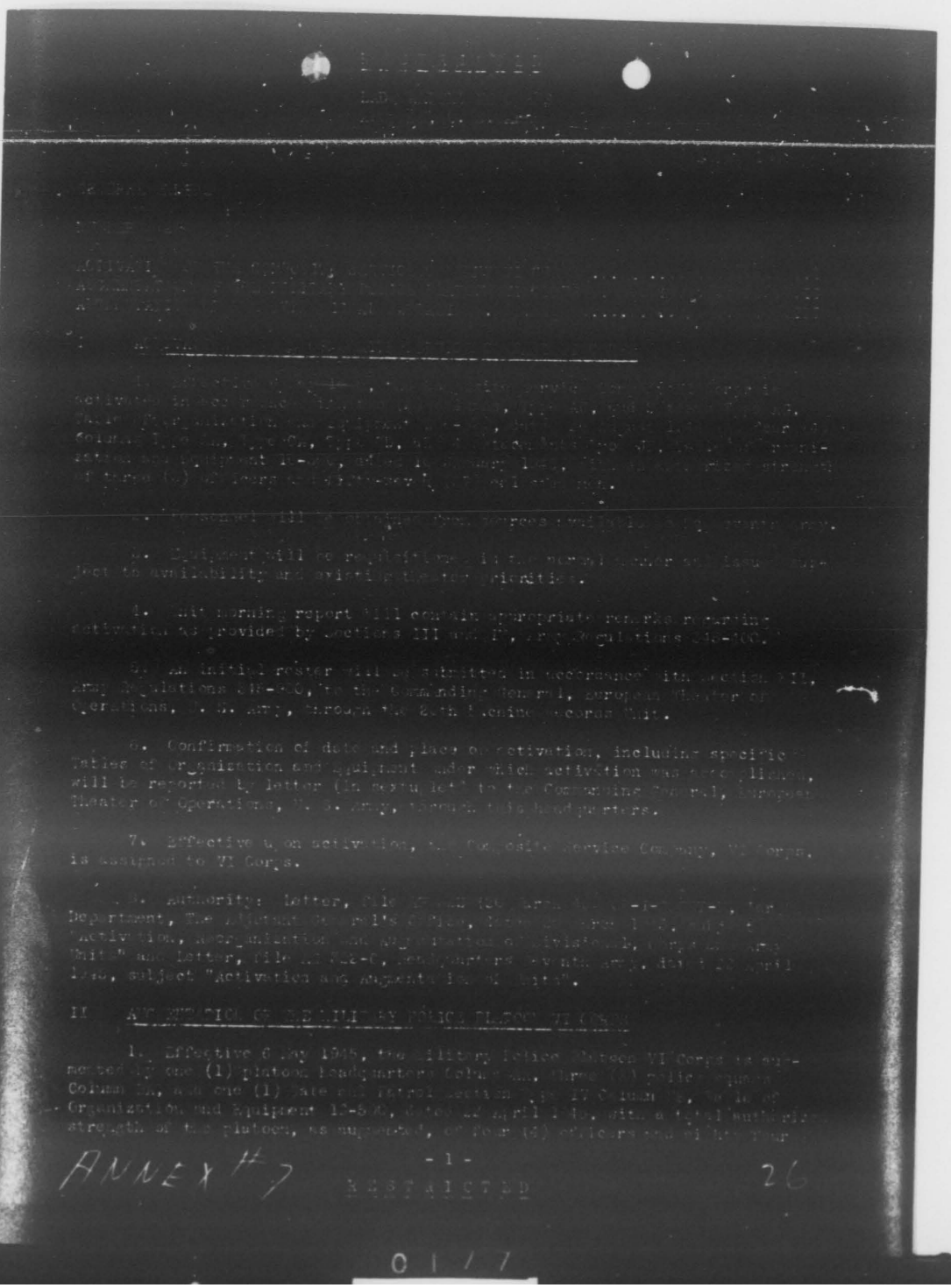

ANNEX #7

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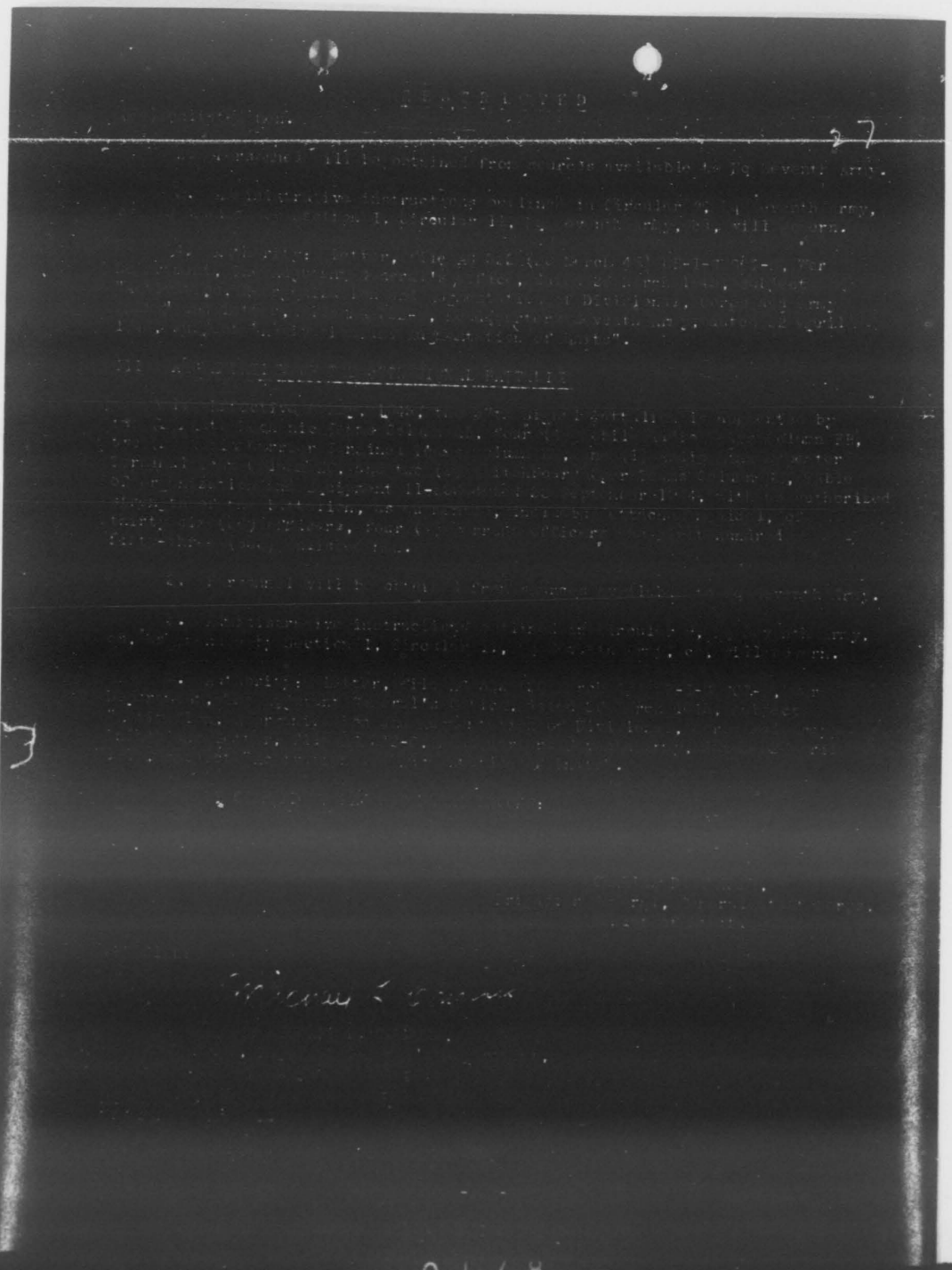

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 46 U. S. ARMY

4 May 1945

CEREMONY FOR SURRENDER

MEMO TO ALL
STAFF SECTIONS

1. Escort

Col Langevin and Capt Pwndt.
2 MP jeeps ea w/2 MPs and driver. Lead jeep to have [illegible] [illegible] stationed with escort and at CP.

2. Guard

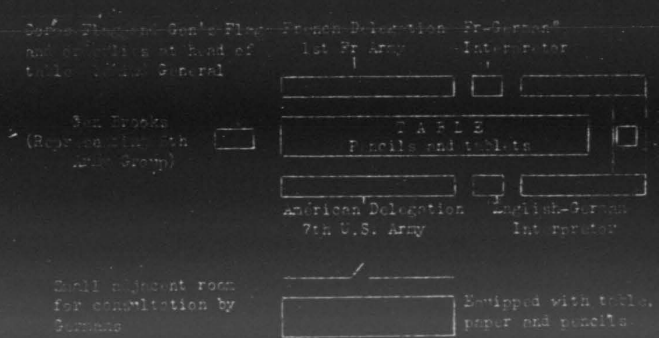
1 Inf Co from 103d Inf Div
1 Bagd (to be provided by G-1)
American colors)
French colors) With color guard
General's Flag)
Corps Flag)

3. Time

All participants to be at their posts at 1130B 5 May. German commander to arrive at 1200B.

4. Conference Room

1 Long table with chairs arranged as below:



5. Scenario

a. Escort meets German commander at edge of town. MP jeep leads followed in turn by Col Langevin, German commander and MP jeep.
b. Escort arrives at Corps CP, guard comes to attention, party dismounts and proceeds to conference hall. (No salutes are given or returned).
c. Party enters conference hall. All members of the Allied Group receiving the surrender are standing at their places. Col Langevin escorts German commander and party to their seats. All remain standing.
d. C/S asks German commander to present his identification. These are inspected by both French and U. S. delegates.

6. Upon approval of identification. C/S indicates that American representatives of 7th U. S. Army are seated on right and representatives of 1st Fr Army are seated on left.

7. All sit down.

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8. Terms of surrender are read in German by Capt Prendt. Germans are presented with copies in German.

9. Germans are permitted to enter side room for discussion among themselves if they so desire.

10. Upon signifying acceptance with the terms, German commander signs the following:

1 Copy in each English, French and German for 6th Army Group
Copy 7th Army
Copy 1st Fr Army
Copy VI Corps
(Total 12 copies)

Each of the above copies have been served upon and personally signed by representatives of 1st Fr Army and CG VI Corps.

11. German delegation departs. (No hand shaking, no returning of salutes). Guard comes to attention at his appearance. Escort takes him to edge of town.

12. After departure of German delegation, guard presents arms to CG VI Corps playing in turn Marseillaise and Star Spangled Banner. All shake hands and depart.

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SECRET
Auth: CG VI CORPS
Initials:
Date: 7 May 1945

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 446, U.S. Army

AG 384-X

SUBJECT: Unconditional Surrender Administration.

TO : Division Commanders and CG, [illegible] Area Security, VI Corps.

1. References - a. Handbook, Military Occupation of Germany, December 1944.

b. Operations in Germany - Counter Intelligence, 8 March 1945, File AG 350.09-B, Headquarters Seventh Army.

c. Arrest and Detention - Germany, 8 March 1945, File AG 380.09-2, GBI-AGM, SHAEF.

d. Counter Intelligence Arrest Procedure - Germany, 25 December 1944, File Jnl No B4578 CI, Headquarters Seventh Army.

e. Operations in Germany - Counterintelligence, Hq VI Corps, 17 March 1945.

f. Instructions on Collecting Evidence in Espionage and Sabotage Cases, 21 March 1945, File AG 380.09B, Headquarters Seventh Army.

2. Attached annexes confirm verbal instructions previously issued and outline additional steps to be taken in consummation of the stipulations of the unconditional surrender of the Commanding General Nineteenth German Army.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BROOKS:

Michael L. Conmy
MICHAEL L. CONMY,
Colonel, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

5 Incls:
Annexes A, B, C, D and E

DISTRIBUTION:
25 - CG ea Div
10 - CG AAA Brig
1 - CG
1 - C/S
1 - DC/S
2 - ea G-2 Sec
2 - Sig
1 - QM
1 - Ord
1 - Surg
1 - AG

ANNEX #10A

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

7 May 1945

ANNEX "A"
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45 file AG 384-X

PERSONNEL

1. The Commanding General Nineteenth German Army will furnish list in four copies of Allied POW Camps, concentration camps, internment camps and similar installations under his command.

2. All Allied POWs, political prisoners, hostages, or deportees will be turned over as directed by the US and French Commanders concerned.

3. Wearing or display of Nazi party badges, brassards, flags and decorations will be strictly prohibited.

4. All military training and military practices in the German police forces and guards will be abolished.

5. There will be no discharge of German military personnel until receipt of instructions from Commanding General Seventh Army.

6. Waffen SS units will be segregated from Wehrmacht units.

7. Provide guards necessary to safeguard records, documents and archives of value to the Supreme Commander (See Annex B).

8. Control of German forces.

9. Provide guards on German military and civilian dumps, depots and installations where required.

10. Guard centers of communication.

11. US - British civilian internees will be treated as Allied POWs.

12. Be responsible for care and maintenance of US - British civilian internees. Food supplies available from Seventh Army.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

SECRET
Auth: CG VI Corps
Initials:
Date 7 May 45

ANNEX "B"
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45 file AG 384-X

7 May 1945

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE (CI)

1. MISSION

The CI mission in GERMANY is:

a. To provide security for our military interests against espionage, sabotage and subversion.

b. To destroy the enemy undercover intelligence (espionage, sabotage and subversion) services, all security or secret police, and all para-military organizations.

c. To dissolve the Nazi Party (NSDAP) and its affiliates and to prevent their rebirth in any form.

d. To dispose of the German General Staff Corps, including equivalent Air Force and Naval officers.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Division Commanders are responsible for the accomplishment of the CI missions in areas of their command and will discharge this responsibility in accordance with instructions contained in the directives referred to in basic communication.

3. BASIC PRINCIPLES

a. Commanders will exert every effort to contain within their respective zones of responsibility all persons until such a time that proper disposition can be made of prisoners of War, displaced persons, refugees, Allied prisoners of war, political prisoners, and persons of CI interest.

b. The interests of security will take priority over the welfare and convenience of the civilian population.

c. As soon as practicable, positive action will be taken to apprehend those persons of Counter Intelligence interest who remain at large. Upon capture by any agency, all known or suspected spies, saboteurs and subvertors, and all persons belonging to German undercover services, security and secret police, and para-military organizations, will be referred to CIC for investigation.

d. Evidence gathered concerning persons of Counter Intelligence interest, whether apprehended or not, will be collected and maintained in accordance with procedures which will insure maximum value of the evidence and its admissability in court.

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4. INTERNAL SECURITY

a. All personnel will be periodically instructed in the fundamentals of individual security discipline.

b. The non-fraternization policy will be strictly enforced.

c. Units will maintain adequate interior guard systems.

d. Present instructions for safe-guarding of classified material remain in effect.

e. Normally, German Nationals will not be employed in Command Posts or in places where they have access to food preparation for Allied personnel. No civilians will be employed without the prior clearance of the AC of S, G-2 of the command concerned, except where employed in labor gangs engaged in work where damage from sabotage is unlikely.

5. CONTROL OF CIVILIAN TRAVEL

Division Commanders will take immediate steps to establish within their respective areas an adequate network of roadblocks and motorized patrols to strictly enforce the prohibition against unauthorized travel by civilians.

6. AUTOMATIC ARRESTEES

Individuals falling within the following categories, as outlined by SHAEF, will be immediately arrested wherever discovered:

a. THE GERMAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES.
   (1) All personnel of Amter (Departments) I, II, III, IV, VI, Militarisches Amt (formerly Abwehr) and VII of the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA, or National Department of Security) together with the out stations and organizations dependent on or controlled by any of these departments.
   (2) All personnel of the Geheime Feldpolizei (GFP, or Secret Field Police).
   (3) All personnel of the Reichssicherheitsdienst (Reich Security Service).

b. THE SICHERHEITSPOLIZEI (Sipo, or Security Police).
   (1) All personnel of the Geheime Staatspolizei (Gestapo, or Secret State Police), including the Grenzpolizei (Grepo, or Frontier Police).
   (2) All officials down to and including the rank of Oberst (Colonel), in the Kriminalpolizei (Kripo, or Criminal Police).

c. HIGHER POLICE OFFICIALS
   (1) High Government Officials in the Police Hierarchy.
   (2) All Polizeipraesidenten and Polizeidirektoren.
   (3) All Oberpraesidenten in Prussia.
   (4) All Regierungspraesidenten.
   (5) All Landraete.
   (6) All Hoehere SS - und Polizeifuhrer.
   (7) All Befehlshaber der Ordnungspolizei.
   (8) All Befehlshaber der Sicherheitspolizei.

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d. THE ORDNUNGSPOLIZEI (Orpo, or Regular Uniformed Police).

All officers down to and including the rank of Oberst (Colonel) or equivalent in the following branches:
(1) Schutzpolizei (Schupo, or Protection Police).
(2) Feuerschutzpolizei (F Schupo, or Fire Protection Police).
(3) Gendarmerie (Gend, or Rural Police).
(4) Wasserschutzpolizei (SW, or Waterways Protection Police).
(5) Luftschutzpolizei (L Schupo, or Air Raid Protection Police).
(6) Technische Nothilfe (Teno, or Technical Emergency Corps).
(7) Verwaltungspolizei (Administrative Police).
(8) Hilfspolizei (Hipo, or Auxiliary Police).

e. PARA-MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS.
(1) Waffen-SS (Armed SS) - all officers and NCO's down to and including the rank of Scharfuhrer, all ranks of the Totenkopf-verbande (TV, or Death's Head Formations) and all SS-Helferinnen or SS-Kriegshelferinnen (SS Female Auxiliaries).
(2) Allgemeine SS (General SS) - all officers and NCO's (Except those who hold only nominal SS rank by reason of their being in the Orpo or Kripo, and have not taken an active part in SS work) down to and including the rank of Unterscharfuhrers and all SS-Helferinnen or SS-Kriegshelferinnen.
(3) Sturmabteilung (SA, or Storm Troops) - all officers down to and including the rank of Sturmbannfuhrer.
(4) Hitler Jugend (HJ, or Hitler Youth) - all officers down to and including the rank of Stammfuhrer and equivalents in the Bund Deutscher Madel, (BDM, or League of German Girls).
(5) Nationalsozialistisches Kraftfahrkorps (NSKK, or National Socialist Motor Corps) - all officers down to and including the rank of Staffelfuhrer.
(6) Nationalsozialistisches Fliegerkorps (NSFK, or National Socialist Aviation Corps) - all officers down to and including Sturmbannfuhrer.
(7) Reichsarbeitsdienst (RAD, or Compulsory National Labor Service) - all officers down to and including the rank of Arbeitsführer.

f. NAZI PARTY OFFICIALS
(1) Administrative officials of the Party down to and including the post of Amtsleiter at Ortsgruppe level.
(2) all members of the Party down to and including the rank of Gauinspekteur.

g. CIVIL SERVANTS (Beamter Dienst)
(1) All members of the Beamter Dienst (Civil Service) appointed since 1 March 1938.
(2) All Civil Servants down to and including the rank of Ministerialrat or equivalent, irrespective of the date of appointment.

7. DISPOSITION OF ARRESTEES

a. Generally, arrestees will be disposed of in accordance with the procedures outlined in "Counter Intelligence Arrest Procedure", Headquarters Seventh Army, dated 28 December 1944, Incl No. 8 to 7CI, and "Seventh Army Interrogation Center", 1 April 1945, file AG 380.03-3, Headquarters Seventh Army.

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b. Division Commanders will be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of [illegible] until such time as they can be properly disposed of by Counter Intelligence and other interested agencies.

5. PERSONNEL

a. Commanders will, as necessary, augment their CIC detachments with personnel from "II and III" teams and from combat troops.

b. Sufficient mobile teams, operating under the supervision of the CIC detachment, will be organized to provide CIC coverage for all communities within the division area.

6. PLANS FOR HANDLING ARMY DOCUMENTS

a. BASIC PRINCIPLES

The general rule will be that documents will be guarded and either left in place or collected in label repositories unless evacuation is essential. Only those documents requiring exploitation at higher headquarters will be evacuated, and only then when approved by this headquarters.

b. RULES OF DISPOSITION

(1) Documents required locally for Military Government purposes should be left in place. This applies to documents relating to public utilities as well as civil administration.

(2) Archives and Libraries should be left intact and if any single documents are removed therefrom, their return must be insured.

(3) Documents which must not be left in GERMANY will be evacuated. This applies to those Military documents which, if left to fall back eventually in the hands of Germans, might form a basis for future overt or underground attempts to reconstruct the German armed forces.

(4) CI may, if desirable, freeze any documents of purely CI interest so that they are not shown to any other agency without permission.

c. DOCUMENT CHANNELS

All documents requiring evacuation, with the exception of Air Force, Navy and Signal Documents, will be passed through established document channels.

d. SAFE-GUARDING OF REPOSITORIES

Securing will be effected by sealing the room or building containing the documents and guards will be posted wherever practicable. The repositories will remain guarded or sealed until authorized document personnel take custody.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 446, U. S. Army

ANNEX #6
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45 file AG 384-A

7 May 1945

OPERATIONS

1. German units, except where such movement of higher headquarters is impractical, will cease occupation of all towns at once.

2. Units will establish and be restricted to concentration areas of battalion or larger size outside the towns, and movement of German personnel outside such areas for maintenance and administration will be by authority of this headquarters only. Location of concentration areas of all German units will be reported to this headquarters without delay.

3. Concentration areas will not be located in the vicinity of military dumps, fortifications or installations.

4. German concentration areas will be posted with signs in German and English indicating that the areas are occupied by German troops and are off limits to civilians and Allied personnel except on authorized duty.

5. Movement of German units from present locations to new concentration areas will be cleared with this headquarters.

6. Curfew is imposed on all German units from 1800B to 0600B.

7. Location of German dumps and installations where German guards are now maintained will be reported to this headquarters without delay. German guards will be relieved as soon as practicable by Allied personnel.

8. Location of roadblocks, minefields and demolitions installed by German units will be reported to this headquarters without delay. German personnel will be employed, under orders of this headquarters, to remove such installations.

9. Physical training will be permitted within concentration areas. Road marches will be permitted outside concentration areas by authority of this headquarters only, and under no conditions will be accompanied by any military display. All forms of military training are prohibited.

10. Orders transmitted herewith apply to all para-military and police units under command of Nineteenth German Army as well as to German Army units.

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[illegible]

ANNEX "[illegible]"
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45, File [illegible]

[illegible]

1. [illegible]

a. [illegible] supplies [illegible] as [illegible].

b. U. S. Division Commanders will [illegible] furnish four copies [illegible] type.
(1.) Inventories [illegible] quantity and type of each item [illegible].
(2.) Inventories will [illegible] corrections and [illegible] true status of all equipment.
(3.) One copy of all inventories will [illegible] U. S. Division Commander concerned [illegible] will be submitted to [illegible] General, VI Corps, Attention: Ordnance Officer.

c. Each division will consolidate within its [illegible] captured ordnance equipment into [illegible] dumps [illegible].
(1.) Dumps will [illegible] convenient [illegible].
(2.) Dumps will [illegible] all available [illegible].
(3.) Dumps will [illegible] guarded at all times.
(4.) Location of [illegible] will be reported to Commanding General, VI Corps, attention: Ordnance Officer.

d. U. S. Division Commanders will take immediate [illegible] to preserve such equipment in its present state of serviceability, utilizing necessary German maintenance companies [illegible] and supplies [illegible] U. S. technical supervision.

e. Large dumps, stores, munitions factories and [illegible] installations will be taken over [illegible] in place [illegible] location and size reported to this Headquarters.

f. The following ordnance [illegible] may be retained by the German army:
(1.) One rifle, cal. 7.[illegible]mm per [illegible].
(2.) One weapon per officer.
(3.) Ten rounds ammunition per authorized weapon.
(4.) One truck [illegible] per [illegible], one passenger car per ten officers, one ambulance per 500 patients.

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2. QUARTERMASTER EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. Class I

(1.) The German army will continue to supply itself from its own stocks.

(2.) The location of large stocks, depots, stores and warehouses of food will be obtained from German authorities concerned, guarded, and reported to this Headquarters, Attention: Quartermaster.

(3.) Information will be given later as to obtaining additional food in the event that German army stocks are inadequate.

b. Class II

(1.) German personnel will be allowed to retain all personal items of equipment in their possession.

(2.) The German army will continue to meet its Class II & IV needs from its own supply sources within the sector.

(3.) Division Commanders will obtain the location of all dumps, stores, warehouses or large stocks of Class II & IV quartermaster supplies within their respective areas and report the location and size to this Headquarters, Attention: Quartermaster, and take appropriate steps to guard all such installations.

c. Class III

(1.) Division Commanders will effect the collection of all Class III stocks into three dumps in each division area of responsibility.

(2.) Necessary minimum amounts of German gasoline and oil will be released by Division Commanders to [illegible] units for their use within their assigned area.

(3.) The location of large stocks, depots and stores of Class III supplies will be obtained from the German authorities concerned, adequately guarded and reported to this Headquarters, Attention: Quartermaster.

3. SIGNAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. All German Signal Equipment will be left under guard in German signal dumps until inspected by [illegible] and collected by Seventh Army Signal Supply.

b. [illegible] will [illegible] for German radio and radar installations, [illegible] plants. The [illegible] to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Signal Officer.

c. [illegible] for guarding all [illegible] stations and radar installations.

d. [illegible] Military [illegible] VI Corps.

e. [illegible] records [illegible]

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4. MEDICAL

a. The German Army will continue to effect medical service as previously and to supply its medical needs as far as possible from its own stocks within the zone.

(1.) Vehicle and ambulance allowances for administrative needs are covered under "Ordnance Equipment."

(2.) Divisions will grant necessary passes to Medical Department Personnel for the proper function of the staff.

b. (1.) Division Commanders will obtain the location and status of all Medical dumps within their zone of responsibility and will guard and report the location and size to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Surgeon.

(2.) Required Medical supplies not available from German sources will be reported to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Surgeon.

c. The location and name or proper designation of hospitals within occupied area with the total number of beds in each institution and the status of personnel, both enemy and friendly, will be obtained and reported to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Surgeon.

d. Evacuation of Hospitalized Personnel.

(1.) German Personnel: Duty patients will be held minimum time necessary and will be evacuated to the nearest German military organization.

(2.) United Nations Personnel: Evacuation will be done by the United Nations.

5. ENGINEER EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. Division Commanders will designate points at which the following types of Engineer supplies will be turned in:

(1.) Explosives.
(2.) Mines.
(3.) Firing devices and igniters of all types.
(4.) Prefabricated bridging equipment.
(5.) Assault boats and floating equipment of all types.
(6.) All stocks of maps except those necessary for normal operations.
(7.) Any other equipment now in hands of troops that is not necessary for the performance of normal service missions.

b. The following information will be submitted to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Engineer:

(1.) Copies of all minefield records or any other information relative to installed mines and demolitions.

(2.) Location of all engineer dumps and other sources of engineer construction materials, along with complete inventories of same.

(3.) Location of all engineer schools or training areas, with inventory of equipment on hand.

c. Division Commanders will allow the Nineteenth German Army to retain the following types of equipment:

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(1.) Pioneer tools.
(2.) Water purification equipment.
(3.) Mine detectors.
(4.) Any power tools on hand that are necessary for the performance of normal service missions.
(5.) Electric generating equipment.

f. CHEMICAL WARFARE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. Division Commanders will determine the location of all Chemical Warfare equipment and supplies within their assigned sectors from appropriate German Military Authorities.

b. Chemical Warfare equipment and supplies will be inventoried, marked and guarded in place.

c. Reports of locations and quantity of all such equipment and supplies will be reported to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Chemical Warfare Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

ANNEX "E"
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45 file AG 384-X

7 May 1945

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Prevention of Sabotage. The German Authorities will prevent sabotage, unauthorized removal or other damage to civil and military telecommunication systems, or their component parts, both before and after these communications are taken over by Allied forces.

2. Handing over Telecommunication Systems. The German Authorities will hand over such telecommunications systems, equipment and dumps as may be ordered, together with all associated equipment stocks of maintenance stores and spares and relevant records. The above systems will be handed over to the local Allied Military Commander who will have absolute discretion subject only to directives received from his superior commander, as to the future status of the systems.

3. Staffing of System. All executive operating and maintenance staffs, military and civilian, will remain at their posts until otherwise ordered by the Allied Military Authorities.

4. Closing Down and Reopening of Telecommunications Systems. Immediately on the cessation of hostilities, all telecommunications systems under German control will close down and will not be reopened until further notice.

5. Provision of Information. The German Military Authorities will be responsible for providing all information relative to, and for the removal of, land mines, demolition explosives and the like, on all cable landing beaches, cable and overhead routes, telecommunication installations and buildings of all kinds.

6. All codes, ciphers and cryptographic equipment will be assembled at Army Corps and Division level and will be turned over to the VI Corps Signal Liaison Officer.

7. Unit commanders will be held responsible for the sabotage, unauthorized removal or other damage to telecommunications systems of their component parts, or of any of the items enumerated above, both before or after the communications are taken over by Allied Forces.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS

AG 384.

7 May 1945

SUBJECT: Unconditional Surrender Administration.

TO : Liaison Officers with Nineteenth German Army.

1. References - a. Handbook, Military Occupation of Germany, December 1944.

b. Operations in Germany - Counter Intelligence, 6 March 1945, File AG 350.09-B, Headquarters Seventh Army.

c. Arrest and Detention - Germany, 9 March 1945, File AG 350.09-2 GBI-AGM, SHAEF.

d. Counter Intelligence Arrest Procedure - Germany, 23 December 1944, File Jnl No B4578 CI, Headquarters Seventh Army.

e. Operations in Germany - Counterintelligence, Hq VI Corps, 17 March 1945.

f. Instructions on Collecting Evidence in Espionage and Sabotage cases, 21 March 1945, File AG 350.09B, Headquarters Seventh Army.

2. Attached annexes confirm verbal instructions previously issued and outline additional steps to be taken in consummation of the stipulations of the unconditional surrender of the Commanding General, Nineteenth German Army.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BROOKS:

H. S. KILCORN,
Major, A. G. D.,
Asst Adjutant General.

5 Incls:
Annexes A, B, C, D and E

DISTRIBUTION:
1 - CG
1 - C/S
1 - DC/S
10- G-3
2 - G-1
2 - G-2
2 - G-3
2 - G-4
2 - G-5
2 - Sig
1 - QM
1 - Ord
1 - Surg
1 - AG

ANNEX #10 B

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

ANNEX "A"
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45 file AG 384

7 May 1945

PARAGRAPH

1. Commanding General, Nineteenth German Army will furnish list in four copies of Allied POW Camps, concentration camps, internment camps and similar installations under his command.

2. All Allied POWs, political prisoners, hostages, or deportees will be handed over as directed by the US and French Commanders concerned.

3. Wearing or display of Nazi party badges, brassards, flags and decorations will be strictly prohibited.

4. All military training and military practices in the German police forces and guards will be abolished.

5. There will be no discharge of German military personnel until receipt of instructions from the Commanding General, Seventh Army.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 446, U. S. Army

ANNEX "B"
To Ltr HQ VI Corps
7 May 45 file AG-384

7 May 1945

COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

1. A complete list, four copies, of all units under command of the Nineteenth German Army or otherwise stationed in its area, together with their locations and their approximate strength.

2. Four copies of the map, 1/100,000 showing the state of roads and destruction effected or prepared.

3. An order of battle of the Nineteenth German Army giving the names of:

a. Generals in command of higher units and their Chiefs of Staff.

b. Officers commanding regiments or units not under division command.

c. Section heads of higher units.

d. Complete list of all concentration camps, supervised districts where are citizens of Allied powers in Nineteenth German Army's area.

e. Names and residences of retired and active General Staff Officers in the Nineteenth German Army's area.

f. Names of Officers in the G-2 Section of the Nineteenth German Army and divisions under its control.

4. Location and brief inventory of intelligence targets such as libraries, archives and Wehrmacht documents; also names and residence of persons such as technical experts; location and status of experimental and research stations, headquarters and offices of all kinds; ministries, industrial plants and miscellaneous army and navy air establishments and installations.

5. Submit immediately the names, ranks, present whereabouts of all present or former members of the NSDAP and positions held therein who presently claim membership in the German Army in area under Nineteenth Army control.

6. Report immediately the names and whereabouts of all officials of the NSDAP and affiliated organizations including all para-military units in area under Nineteenth Army control.

7. Immediately congregate, detain and submit the names of all individuals known to be in the area (whether members of the German Army or not) who

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are or have been affiliated with the following organizations:

a. All personnel of Amter (Departments) I, II, III, IV, VI, Militarisches Amt (formerly Abwehr) and VII of the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA, or National Department of Security) together with the out stations and organizations dependent on or controlled by any of these departments.

b. All personnel of the Geheime Feldpolizei (GFP, or Secret Field Police).

c. All personnel of the Reichssicherheitsdienst (Reich Security) service.

d. All personnel of the Geheime Staatspolizei (Gestapo, or Secret State Police), including the Grenzpolizei (Grepo, or Frontier police).

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 446, U. S. ARMY

ANNEX "C"
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45 file AG 384

7 May 1945

OPERATIONS

1. German units, except where such movement of higher headquarters is impractical, will cease occupation of all towns at once.

2. Units will establish and be restricted to concentration areas of battalion or larger size outside the towns, and movement of German personnel outside such areas for maintenance and administration will be by authority of this headquarters only. Location of concentration areas of all German units will be reported to this headquarters without delay.

3. Concentration areas will not be located in the vicinity of military dumps, fortifications or installations.

4. German concentration areas will be posted with signs in German and English indicating that the areas are occupied by German troops and are off limits to civilians and Allied personnel except on authorized duty.

5. Movement of German units from present locations to new concentration areas will be cleared with this headquarters.

6. Curfew is imposed on all German units from 1800B to 0600B.

7. Location of German dumps and installations where German guards are now maintained will be reported to this headquarters without delay. German guards will be relieved as soon as practicable by Allied personnel.

8. Location of roadblocks, minefields and demolitions installed by German units will be reported to this headquarters without delay. German personnel will be employed, under orders of this headquarters, to remove such installations.

9. Physical training will be permitted within concentration areas. Road marches will be permitted outside concentration areas by authority of this headquarters only, and under no conditions will be accompanied by any military display. All forms of military training are prohibited.

10. Orders transmitted herewith apply to all para-military and police units under command of Nineteenth German Army as well as to German Army units.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

ANNEX "D" 7 May 1945
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45, file AG 384

SUPPLY

1. ORDNANCE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. U. S. Division Commanders will take over all Ordnance equipment and supplies of the German Nineteenth Army within their assigned sectors, except as authorized in paragraph c. below.

b. U. S. Division Commanders will require German authorities to furnish four copies of inventories listing items turned over by quantity and type.
(1.) Inventories will be prepared so as to show the quantity and type of each item turned in by each military unit.
(2.) Inventories will be checked against materiel to verify the correctness and records will be kept so as to show the source and true status of all equipment.
(3.) One copy of all inventories will be kept by the U. S. Division Commander concerned and three will be submitted to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Ordnance Officer.

c. Each division will consolidate within its own area all captured ordnance equipment into not more than three dumps by type.
(1.) Dumps will be convenient to methods of evacuation.
(2.) Dumps will utilize all available storage space.
(3.) Dumps will be guarded at all times.
(4.) Location of dumps will be reported to Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Ordnance Officer.

d. U. S. Division Commanders will take immediate steps to preserve such equipment in its present state of serviceability, utilizing necessary German maintenance companies with equipment and supplies under competent U. S. technical supervision.

e. Large dumps, stores, munitions factories and permanent installations will be taken over and guarded in place and the location and size reported to this Headquarters.

f. The following ordnance equipment may be retained by the German Army:
(1.) One rifle, cal. 7.92mm per 100 enlisted men.
(2.) One weapon per officer.
(3.) Ten rounds ammunition per authorized weapon.
(4.) One truck cargo per 100 men, one passenger car per ten officers, one ambulance per 500 patients.

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2. QUARTERMASTER EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. Class I

(1.) The German army will continue to supply itself from its own stocks.

(2.) The location of large stocks, depots, stores and warehouses of food will be obtained from German authorities concerned, guarded, and reported to this Headquarters, Attention: Quartermaster.

(3.) Information will be given later as to obtaining additional food in the event that German army stocks are inadequate.

b. Class II

(1.) German personnel will be allowed to retain all personal items of equipment in their possession.

(2.) The German Army will continue to meet its Class II & IV needs from its own supply sources within the sector.

(3.) Division Commanders will obtain the location of all dumps, stores, warehouses or large stocks of Class II & IV quartermaster supplies within their respective areas and report the location and size to this Headquarters, Attention: Quartermaster, and take appropriate steps to guard all such installations.

c. Class III

(1.) Division Commanders will effect the collection of all Class III stocks into three dumps in each division area of responsibility.

(2.) Necessary minimum amounts of German gasoline and oil will be released by Division Commanders to German units for their use within their assigned area.

(3.) The location of large stocks, depots and stores of Class III supplies will be obtained from the German authorities concerned, adequately guarded and reported to this Headquarters, Attention: Quartermaster.

3. SIGNAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. All German Signal equipment will be left under guard in German signal dumps until inspected by a representative of EEIS and collected by Seventh Army Signal Supply.

b. Search will be made throughout the entire area for German radio and radar installations, development laboratories and manufacturing plants. The locations of the above installations will be reported immediately to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Signal Officer.

c. Commanders are responsible for guarding all fixed radio stations and radar installations.

d. Commercial radio stations may be operated under Allied Military Government supervision after clearance has been received from AC of S, G-2, VI Corps.

e. All fixed plant telecommunication installations, equipment and records within the area of the German Nineteenth Army will be kept inoperative.

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4. MEDICAL

a. The German Army will continue to fill all medical services as previously and to supply its medical needs as far as possible from its own stocks within the zone.

(1.) Vehicle and ambulance allowances for administrative needs are covered under "Ordnance Equipment."

(2.) Divisions will grant necessary passes to Medical Department Personnel for the proper function of the staff.

b. (1.) Division Commanders will obtain the location and status of all Medical dumps within their zone of responsibility and will guard and report the location and size to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Surgeon.

(2.) Required Medical supplies not available from German sources will be reported to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Surgeon.

c. The location and name or proper designation of hospitals within occupied area with the total number of beds in each institution and the status of personnel, both enemy and friendly, will be obtained and reported to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Surgeon.

d. Evacuation of Hospitalized Personnel.

(1.) German Personnel: Only patients will be held minimum time necessary and will be evacuated to the nearest German military organization.

(2.) United Nations Personnel: Evacuation will be done by the United Nations.

5. ENGINEER EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. Division Commanders will designate points at which the following types of Engineer supplies will be turned in:

(1.) Explosives.
(2.) Mines.
(3.) Firing devices and igniters of all types.
(4.) Prefabricated bridging equipment.
(5.) Assault boats and floating equipment of all types.
(6.) All stocks of maps except those necessary for normal operations.
(7.) Any other equipment now in hands of troops that is not necessary for the performance of normal service missions.

b. The following information will be submitted to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Engineer:

(1.) Copies of all minefield records or any other information relative to installed mines and demolitions.
(2.) Location of all engineer dumps and other sources of engineer construction materials, along with complete inventories of same.
(3.) Location of all engineer schools or training areas, with inventory of equipment on hand.

c. Division Commanders will allow the Nineteenth German Army to retain the following types of equipment:

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(1.) Pioneer tools.
(2.) Water purification equipment.
(3.) Mine detectors.
(4.) Any power tools on hand that are necessary for the performance of normal service missions.
(5.) Electric generating equipment.

6. CHEMICAL WARFARE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

a. Division Commanders will determine the location of all Chemical Warfare equipment and supplies within their assigned sectors from appropriate German Military Authorities.

b. Chemical Warfare equipment and supplies will be inventoried, marked and guarded in place.

c. Reports of locations and quantity of all such equipment and supplies will be reported to the Commanding General, VI Corps, Attention: Chemical Warfare Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

ANNEX "B"
To Ltr Hq VI Corps
7 May 45 file AG 384

7 May 1945

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Prevention of Sabotage. The German Authorities will prevent sabotage, unauthorized removal or other damage to civil and military telecommunication systems, or their component parts, both before and after these communications are taken over by Allied forces.

2. Handing over Telecommunication Systems. The German Authorities will hand over such telecommunications systems, equipment and dumps as may be ordered, together with all associated equipment stocks of maintenance stores and spares and relevant records. The above systems will be handed over to the local Allied Military Commander who will have absolute discretion subject only to directives received from his superior commander, as to the future status of the systems.

3. Staffing of System. All executive operating and maintenance staffs, military and civilian, will remain at their posts until otherwise ordered by the Allied Military Authorities.

4. Closing Down and Reopening of Telecommunications Systems. Immediately on the cessation of hostilities, all telecommunications systems under German control will close down and will not be reopened until further notice.

5. Provision of Information. The German Military Authorities will be responsible for providing all information relative to, and for the removal of, land mines, demolition explosives and the like, on all cable landing beaches, cable and overhead routes, telecommunication installations and buildings of all kinds.

6. All codes, ciphers and cryptographic equipment will be assembled at Army Corps and Division level and will be turned over to the VI Corps Signal Liaison Officer.

7. Unit commanders will be held responsible for the sabotage, unauthorized removal or other damage to telecommunications systems of their component parts, or of any of the items enumerated above, both before or after the communications are taken over by Allied Forces.

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Mettlach
Wurscheid
Schoden
Perl-Nennig
Perl-Besch
Perl-Oberleuken
Perl-Borg
Perl-Sehndorf
Perl-Nennig
Perl-Besch
Perl-Oberleuken
Perl-Borg
Perl-Sehndorf
Tettingen
Butzdorf
Wochern
Remich
Schengen
Wellenstein
Stadtbredimus
Ellange
Ellange-Gare
Bous
Dalheim
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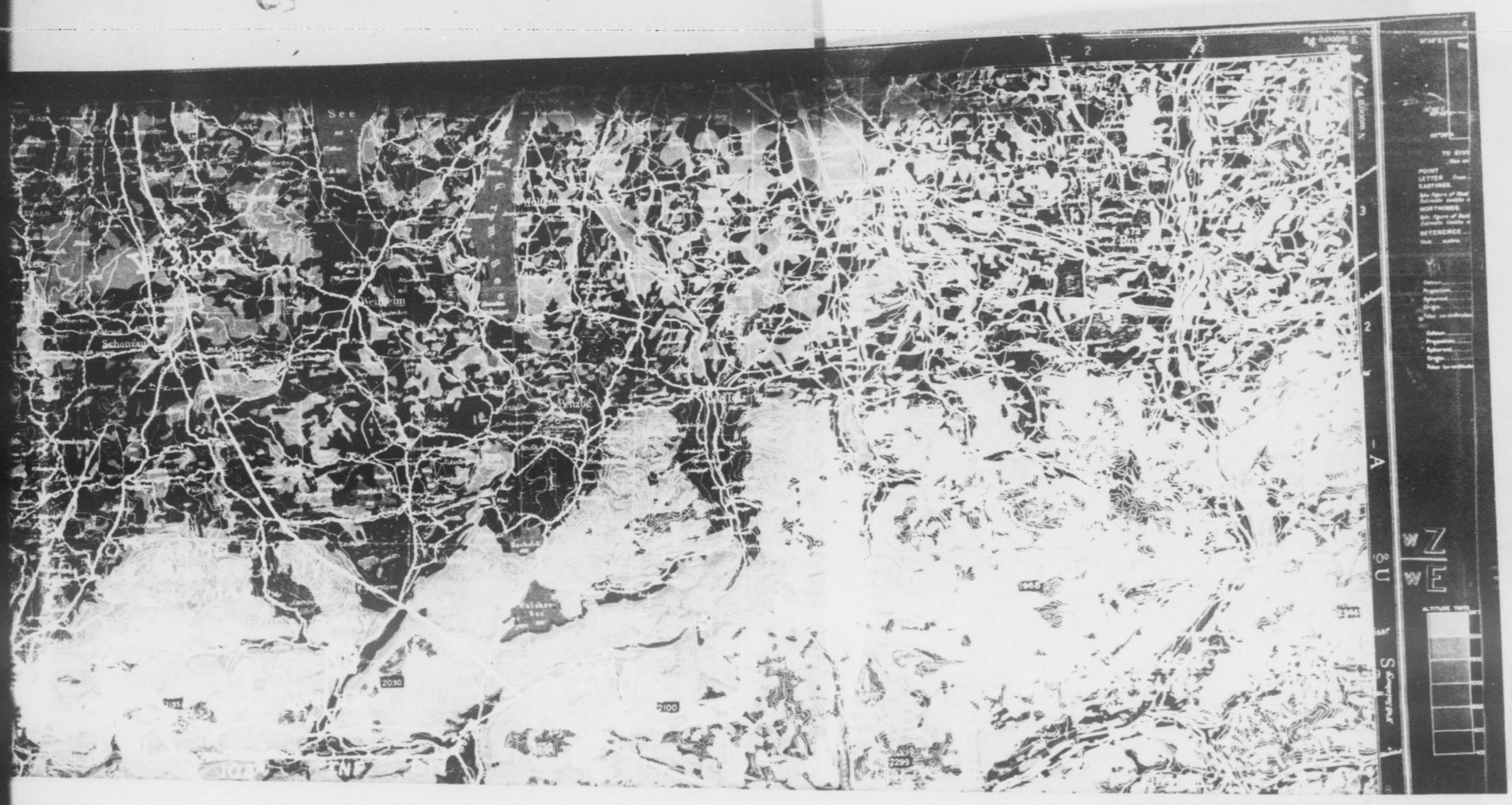

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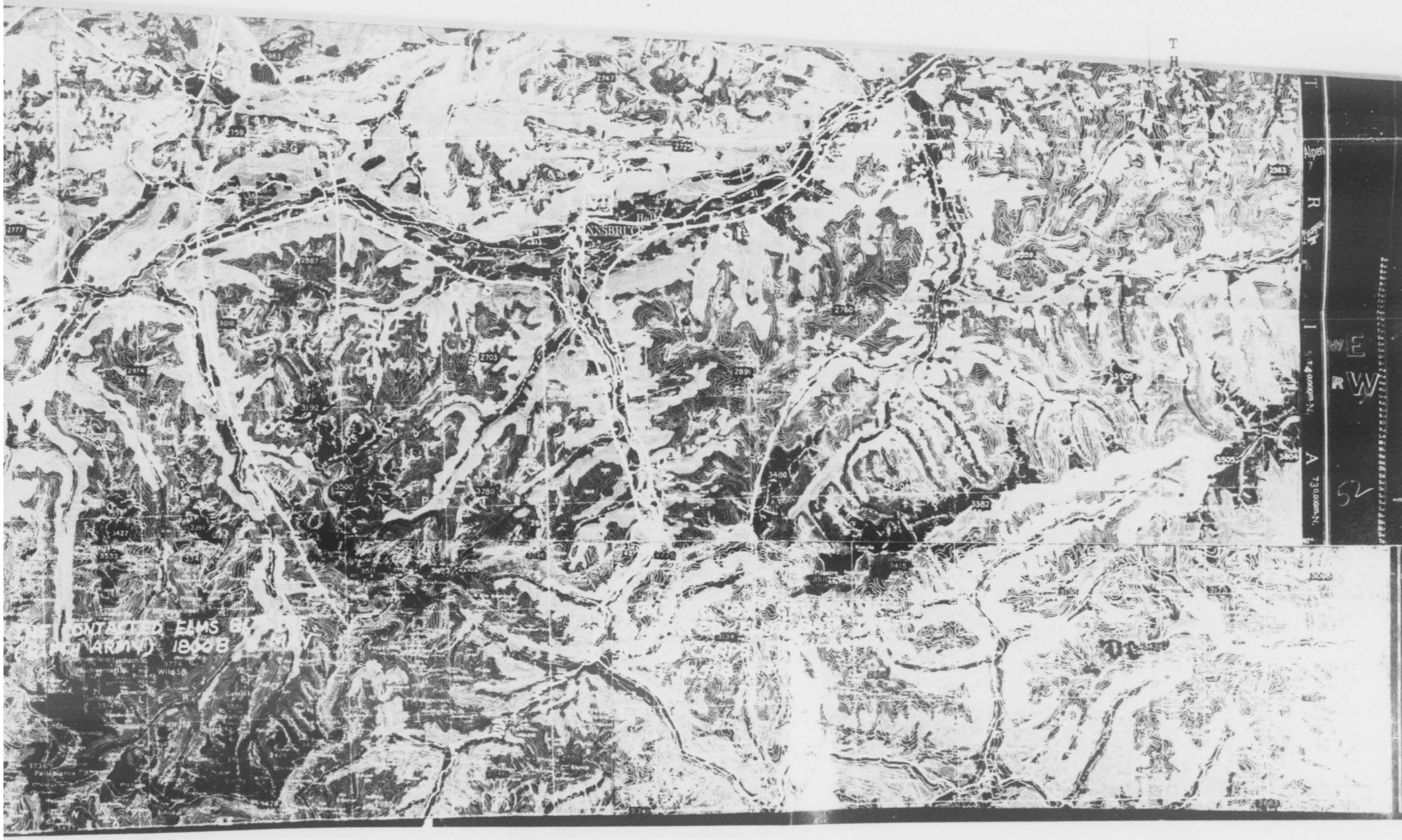

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

AG 314.7

SUBJECT: Historical Record, Headquarters VI Corps, 1 - 31 May 1945.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, 25, D. C. (Thru Channels).

INTRODUCTION

1. Since the cessation of hostilities in the European Theater of Operations, VI Corps activities were confined to the securing and policing of various zones within its sector. Former boundaries were superceded by new boundaries and regions were allocated to VI Corps elements for the maintenance of security measures.

2. At the inception of the period, VI Corps, comprising the 44th and 103d Infantry Divisions, the 10th Armored Division, the 35th AAA Brigade and VI Corps Artillery was augmented by the attachment of the 36th and 45th Infantry Divisions and the 2d French Armored Division.

3. VI Corps units were preparing for the occupation of their newly assigned sectors generally bounded on the East by the western half of Landkreis MEISBACH and MUNICH; on the North and Northwest by Landkreis DACHAU, FRIEDBERG, SCHWABMUNCHEN and MINDELHEIM; on the West by Landkreis MEMMINGEN and KEMPTEN and on the South by the AUSTRO-SWISS and AUSTRO-ITALIAN borderr.

4. Elements of the 45th Division and VI Corps Artillery occupied the left half of the VI Corps zone generally including Landkreis DACHAU, MUNICH and WOLFRATSHAUSEN with the 36th and 44th Divisions and the 35th AAA Brigade on the right covering generally Landkreis FRIEDBERG, SCHWABMUNCHEN, MINDELHEIM, LANDSBERG, KAUFBEUREN, MEMMINGEN, MARKT OBERDORF and REUTTE. The south central sector of the Corps Zone including Landkreis GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN and TOLZ was occupied by the 10th Armored Division while the 2d French Armored Division occupied the right and left half of Landkreis LANDSBERG and STARNBERG, respectively.

11 May

1. The 36th, 45th Infantry Divisions and the 2d French Armored Division were attached to VI Corps on 11 May.

2. The 36th Infantry Division continued to occupy and police its assigned sector as elements of the division initiated a preliminary reconnaissance preparatory to moving to an area in the vicinity of KAUFBEUREN (T-1524). The 44th Infantry Division initiated the establishment of a prohibited frontier zone along the AUSTRO-SWISS and AUSTRO-ITALIAN border, while the 103d Infantry Division established a similar zone along the AUSTRO-ITALIAN border. The 45th Infantry Division concerned itself with the maintenance of security in the city of MUNICH (T-3556). The 10th Armored Division, 35th AAA Brigade and 2d French Armored Division continued to organize, occupy and police their respective sectors, while VI Corps Artillery commenced movement to its new area in the vicinity of WOLFRATSHAUSEN (T-7532).

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3. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 154 was received dissolving the Seventh Army Security Command and directing the Commanding General thereof to coordinate the turn-over of units under his command to the respective Corps as indicated on an attachment order accompanying the O.I. In accordance therewith, the following units were attached to VI Corps for operations effective 1800B 11 May 1945: Hq & Hq Btry 68th AAA Gp, [illegible] (-Det), 353d AAA SAL Bn (-Det), Hq & Hq Btry, 421st FA Gp, 602d FA Bn, 1697th Engr C Bn and 78th Cml SG Co 1/.

4. Operations Instruction No. 94 was issued relative to the regrouping and occupation of Corps' sector and directing: (a) the 36th Division to move to the area generally bounded by VAMMENDORF (Y-5463) - SCHONGAU (Y-3618) - [illegible] (X-8335) - FISCHACH (Y-1870) commencing 13 May and closing in area prior to 1800B 15 May; upon closing in area to assume command of sector and secure and police the area; (b) the 44th Division to establish a prohibited frontier zone along the AUSTRO-SWISS and AUSTRO-ITALIAN border in a sector generally East of the RESIA Pass and generally bounded by HOFEN (D-0982) - HOENBACH (D-0666) - KAPPL (V-2537) - NAUDERS (V-3416) - SOLDEN (V-7223) and [illegible] (D-2853); (c) the 45th Division to secure and police MUNICH (Y-8556) and the area generally bounded by GEROLSBACH (Y-6996) - WORTH (Z-0969) and HOHENBRUNN (Y-9646); (d) the 103d Division to establish a prohibited frontier zone along the AUSTRO-ITALIAN border in sector generally East and West of the BRENNER Pass and generally bounded by JENBACH (E-0474) - INNSBRUCK (D-7859) - STAMS (D-4558) and SCHARNITZ (D-6672); (e) the 10th Armored Division to establish a prohibited frontier zone along the AUSTRO-GERMAN border generally bounded by BAD TOLZ (Y-8714) - PENZBERG (Y-7312) and PEITING (Y-3815); (f) the 2d French Armored Division to remain assembled in the DIESSEN (Y-5133) area prepared for movement on VI Corps order and to conduct a program of rehabilitation and maintenance; (g) the 35th AAA Brigade to continue present mission in sector; (h) the VI Corps Artillery to move attached units to the [illegible] (Y-7539) area generally bounded by DINGHARTING (Y-8238) - [illegible] - [illegible] (Y-7521) - WEILHEIM (Y-5521) and [illegible] (Y-5849) and be prepared on VI Corps order to occupy area now held by 2d French Armored Division. Operations Instruction No. 94 also directed that commanders would be responsible for the following within respective sectors: the protection of supply installations supplementing as necessary the installation of guards and coordination of security measures; the security of railroads, main supply routes, petroleum pipe lines and critical signal installations; the protection and disposition of captured enemy materiel and supplies as directed by current administrative orders; the disarming and policing of the civilian population and support of military government; the disciplinary control of all troops in sectors, including members of all Allied Forces not under direct command of VI Corps; the maintenance of road blocks to prevent unauthorized movement of civilian or German military personnel and the utilization of selected road blocks to check proper use of motor vehicles and to report uniform and equipment violations; the establishment of security of [illegible] troops located in the towns; security posts to require all personnel to identify themselves by password or credentials; the maintenance of continuous security patrols to check the security of military installations, arrest suspicious individuals and arrest civilians violating [illegible]; the coordination with adjacent commanders. In addition, [illegible]

1/. Annex No. 30.
(Note: Daily G-2 Intelligence Bulletins and G-[illegible] are used as references for periods they cover, and will not be indicated in future paragraphs.

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Divisions and 10th Armored Division engaged in establishing [illegible] were directed to remove all civilians from a zone not more than [illegible] meters deep on the North side of the AUSTRO-[illegible] ITALIAN borders, except where large towns made evacuation [illegible] zone to be varied in depth by sector commanders, [illegible] barrier; to maintain [illegible] [illegible] and to prevent movement of all [illegible] military personnel across borders, except in authorized [illegible] to their own countries with prior approval of this headquarters [illegible] civilians holding SHAEF passes. 2/.

12 May

1. VI Corps units were engaged in securing and policing [illegible] throughout 12 May and conducted preliminary reconnaissance [illegible] movement to new areas.

2. The 36th Division was employed in its reconnaissance of the [illegible] (V-1524) area preparatory to its movement upon relief by the [illegible] sion and the 42d Infantry Division (XV Corps). The 44th Division [illegible] ing a prohibited frontier zone along the [illegible] with no hostile or subversive activity being reported throughout the [illegible] The division, however, apprehended JON [illegible], former Rumanian [illegible] Germany under Premier ANTONESCU. Chief Engineer [illegible] Head of [illegible] DEPARTMENT was also taken. In addition, [illegible] were detected in VOLKSCHULE Field Hospital at LANDECK (V-[illegible]). The [illegible] Division maintained a prohibited frontier zone along the [illegible] and secured sixteen prisoners through the [illegible] cage and one through [illegible] channels. The 45th Division, meanwhile, occupied and policed [illegible] tisted occupation of its assigned sector adjacent to the city of [illegible] VI Corps Artillery was engaged in moving its attached artillery [illegible] area in the vicinity of WOLFRATSHAUSEN (Y-2632). 3/.

3. The 2d French Armored Division conducted a program of rehabilitation and maintenance while occupying and policing its assigned sector. The [illegible] AAA Brigade arrested fifty displaced persons, fifteen of whom were [illegible] and three civilian violators, while the 10th Armored Division captured [illegible] German displaced persons (German soldiers) during the period.

4. VI Corps directed that units be on the alert and to apprehend all diplomatic and German consular representatives who had been ordered from SWITZERLAND by the Swiss Government. Upon apprehension these people were to be held secure and Corps notified of the full names of the persons apprehended and the positions held in the German diplomatic service. In addition, VI Corps directed that all security guards honor passes signed by the Signal Officer of Seventh Army authorizing the holder to enter signal installations guarded by security troops 4/.

5. Subversive activities were indicated during the period when telephone wires and cables between LANDECK (V-3944) and PRUTZ (V-4437) and between LANDECK and IMST (D-2853) were cut and in some instances 200 yard lengths were completely removed. 5/.

2/. Annex No. 29.

3/. WRJ, 12 May - Entry #8

4/. WRJ, 12 May - Entries #14 and 18.

5/. Annex No. 2.

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6. Operations Instruction No. 95 was issued directing that units of the 34th AAA Brigade guarding targets in the new VI Corps sector were to be relieved by the 36th, 45th and 103d Divisions, the 10th Armored Division and VI Corps Artillery as soon as practicable and the respective targets guarded as long as security was required. 6/.

7. Operations Instruction No. 96 was issued directing: (a) that the boundary between the 36th, 45th Divisions and VI Corps Artillery be changed extending the 45th Division boundary West to include MAISACH (Y-6264) FURSTENFELDBRUCK (Y-6259) and AUBING (Y-7357), and extending the VI Corps Artillery boundary Northeast to include BIBURG (Y-6256); (b) that new units attached to the 35th AAA Brigade and VI Corps Artillery would not be moved from their present locations until relieved on guard of present installations by commanders of respective sectors as indicated in O.I. No. 94, Hq VI Corps 7/.

13 May

1. VI Corps continued to maintain and police areas of responsibility as elements commenced movement to newly assigned areas.

2. The 36th Division, having completed its reconnaissance of its assigned sector, initiated movement of its troops to the area. The 141st Inf commenced moving to the OBER GUNSBURG (Y-0120) - KAUFBEUREN area and closed in by 220000, while the 142d Inf had closed in its new area at MINDELHEIM (Y-0542) by 193000. The 143d Inf continued to be relieved by elements of the 10th Armored Division and continued reconnaissance in the LANDSBERG (Y-3444) - MEMING (Y-4163) area. While the 44th Division maintained a prohibited frontier zone along the AUSTRO-SWISS and AUSTRO-ITALIAN borders in its sector, the 103d Division was engaged in a program of rehabilitation and training while continuing to police its assigned area. The 45th Division continued to secure MUNICH and adjacent areas, assuming guard and patrol, manning road blocks, and collecting and evacuating displaced persons. 35th AAA Brigade occupied and policed its assigned sector as did the 2d French Armored Division, while the VI Corps Artillery was engaged in moving its attached artillery units to the vicinity of WOLFRATSHAUSEN (Y-7532).

3. During the period, the Corps Commander directed all VI Corps divisions to guard all captured enemy aircraft and prohibit their being flown by personnel of their commands until registration and safety regulations were published by Headquarters Seventh Army in order to forestall aircraft accidents causing injuries or deaths which may result in not line of duty status. Late in the period, VI Corps received an information message that Field Marshall GOERING had been forbidden to open the area South of the line INNS - PASS - DRUCK and that movement of German troops West of the line KERCHBERG - [illegible] - ZELL - RADSTADT - VILLACH - PLOCKEN PASS would not be made. Commanders were instructed to prevent such movements 8/.

14 May

1. The 36th Infantry Division continued transporting its units to its new area, while CC [illegible] of the 10th Armored Division was engaged in relieving elements of the 143d Inf of the 36th Division at [illegible] (Y-0129). The

6/. Annex No. 29.

7/. Annex No. 39.

8/. G-3, 13 May - Entries #2, 4 and 23.

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45th Division occupied MUNICH (Y-8556) with police and security missions employed in securing and patrolling the area while troops of the 180th Inf guarded the notorious concentration camp at DaCHAU. The 44th, 100th Divisions and 36th AAA Brigade occupied and policed their respective sectors, while the main body of VI Corps Artillery closed in the WOLFRATSHAUSEN-Landkreis as remaining elements were proceeding to the area upon being relieved from assigned security missions. The 2d French Armored Division was ordered to move to TTZ commencing May 15 and on departure from Seventh Army area would be relieved from attachment to VI Corps and pass to control of the French War Ministry. The 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mecz) was ordered by Seventh Army to FRANKFURT AM MAIN (U-6770) to reach that destination by 20 May. Effective upon departure from Seventh Army area the Squadron was to be relieved from attachment to VI Corps and passes to control of CHARF 9/.

2. Personnel of the 72 Liaison Squadron were recalled to their parent unit, leaving the Corps Air CP short of L-5 type planes. The Air CP then had assembled and registered ten captured German liaison aircraft which were immediately placed in service 10/.

3. The operation of Army Class I and III dumps reverted to Army control and the supply of these dumps to Army Transportation, thus releasing vehicles urgently needed by Corps units 11/.

4. Operations Instruction No. 97 was issued directing: (a) the rescission of paragraph 2c of Corps OI No. 96; (b) the 2d French Armored Division to move commencing 15 May 1945 to vicinity TTZ, France (TU-9952) and the advance detachment to report to TTZ 14 May 1945 for further instructions, on clearing VI Corps zone the unit would be relieved of attachment to VI Corps and reverts to Seventh Army control; (c) VI Corps Artillery on displacement of command post 2d French Armored Division to assume control of 2d French armored Division's sector 12/.

15 May

1. The 36th Division closed in its new area on 15 May upon the arrival of the 143d Inf at 2200B which had been relieved by troops of XX [illegible] and artillery units of the 10th Armored Division in the TEGERN SEE area. The 45th Division completed the security of its sector by the establishment of numerous road blocks and patrols throughout the sector. Other VI Corps units continued to occupy and police their respective areas.

2. A letter was received from Seventh Army, entitled "Movement of Disarmed German Forces", to the Commanding General of VI Corps directing: (a) the movement as soon as practicable of Disarmed German Forces in Corps zone to the [illegible] WOLFRATSHAUSEN area; (b) the movement to be coordinated with the transportation officer of Seventh Army, the Seventh Mission (WELL AT ZF) and German staffs concerned; (c) all available German transportation to be used 13/.

9/. WDJ, 14 May - Entries #16 and 25.

10/. Annex No. 3.

11/. Annex No. 10.

12/. Annex No. 29.

13/. Annex No. 30.

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3. Warning was again issued to all units that no displaced persons would travel through the VI Corps zone except those screened and issued the SHAFF PASS by authorized agencies. This warning was prompted by an incident that occurred late in the afternoon of the period when a group of displaced persons were spot checked at a road block North of [illegible] (N-0743). None of these civilians had a SHAFF PASS but nevertheless had travelled a distance of some 600 kilometers, some percentage of this distance being through VI Corps zone.

4. The following personalities were apprehended and arrested during the period: HANS SCHREYER an ORTSGRUPPENLEITER; LUDWIG DIETMAYER an ALLGEMEINE SS OBERSCHARFUHRER; FRANZ LERNER an UNTERBANNFUHRER HITLER JUGEND; OTTO DUMLER an ORTSGRUPPENLEITER; FRANZ FECKNER, MINISTER OF JUSTICE OF BERLIN; FRITZ ENGEL, founder of a pro Nazi-group in SWITZERLAND and active Nazi Party Group in PARTENKIRCHEN; WILHELM PASVICK, a party member since 1927 and an OBERSTURMFUHRER in SA since 1928 14/.

5. One of the interesting incidents of the period was the apprehension of DOUGLAS CHANDLER, Nazi collaborator and radio propagandist who was arrested in FUSSEN, OBERAYEN, GERMANY by the 206th CIC Detachment. CHANDLER, born and educated in America, travelled to Europe in 1931 where he joined the then swelling ranks of Nazis and accepted the job of radio propagandist in 1940. Assuming the pseudonym of PAUL REVERE, CHANDLER broadcast Nazi dogma advocating among other principles that a "Pan Europe knot together by Teutonic influence was for the best good of this continental civilization". 15/.

16 May

1. The 36th Division completed the entire movement of its units into its new sector as of 0400B while earlier in the period the 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was relieved of attachment to the 44th Division and reverted to VI Corps control. Other Corps units continued to maintain security in their respective sectors 16/.

2. Seventh Army Operations Instruction No. 156 was received directing: (a) the boundary between VI Corps and XV Corps be changed to make the dividing line between the Corps' sectors the eastern boundaries of Landkreis [illegible], [illegible] and TOLZ; (b) the boundary between VI Corps and XXI Corps be changed to make the dividing line between the Corps' sectors the northern and western boundary of Landkreis [illegible], the northern boundary of Landkreis [illegible], and the north and northwestern boundary of Landkreis [illegible]; (c) VI Corps to withdraw to new army boundary as relieved by XX Corps, Third Army, the date and hour of relief to be reported; (d) Third Army to be responsible for the security of area in the vicinity of [illegible] and authorizing complete occupancy of the area and Seventh Army troops to vacate the area; (e) Seventh Army to pass from control of Sixth Army Group to Twelfth Army Group effective at 16[illegible] May 1945 17/.

3. Operations Instruction No. 33 was issued directing [illegible] relief of the 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron from attachment to [illegible] Division and

14/. Annex No. 33.

15/. Annex No. 2.

16/. [illegible], 16 May - Entries 44 and 5.

17/. Annex No. 30.

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return to Corps control at [illegible]; (b) 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (-one Tr opl) to move to [illegible] on or about 17 May and close at destination by 20 May; (c) to move one Troop [illegible] without Delay; (d) upon departure from the Seventh Army area the Squadron to be released from attachment to VI Corps and pass to control of SHAEF 18/.

4. [illegible] complete the development of a new 20mm automatic weapon [illegible] covered near [illegible]. Included aboard the train were machines for rifling and boring barrels, a complete 20mm gun mount carrier, tools and parts for small arms, and some fifteen to twenty cases of papers and records 19/.

17 May

1. The 36th Division commenced reconnaissance in the 100th Division, the 35th AAA Brigade and VI Corps Artillery sectors preparatory to relieving these elements within the new Division boundary. The 45th Division initiated a similar reconnaissance to relieve elements of the 36th Division and VI Corps Artillery while the 10th Armored Division made preparations to relieve troops of the 36th Division, the 35th AAA Brigade and the VI Corps Artillery. Other VI Corps units maintained their mission of occupying and holding their assigned sectors. The 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was relieved from attachment to VI Corps and reverted to SHAEF control upon clearing VI Corps sector enroute to [illegible] (W-4907).

2. A huge wind tunnel, under construction, for the advancement of aerodynamics, was located just East of [illegible]. The project, including the reservoir and dam, intended to supply power for the wind tunnel, was begun in 1932 and over one thousand laborers had been employed 20/.

3. Operations Instruction No 99 was issued directing: (1) the 36th Division: (a) to relieve elements of the 100th Division (XXI Corps) in sector North of old VI Corps boundary; (b) to relieve elements of 35th AAA Brigade in [illegible] and the VI Corps Artillery in the [illegible] - STARNBERG - [illegible] area without delay; (c) to be prepared on VI Corps order to occupy part of present area 2d French Armored Division; (d) elements of the 100th Division and 12th Armored Division (XXI Corps) to relieve elements of the 36th Division in sector South of old boundary without delay; (2) the 44th Division: (a) to relieve elements of the 103d Division in [illegible] - [illegible] - BRUCK without delay; (3) the 45th Division: (a) to relieve elements of the 36th Division in the [illegible] - [illegible] - [illegible] - [illegible] - MEMMINGEN - [illegible] - SCHWABMUNCHEN area and elements of VI Corps Artillery in sector without delay; (b) to relieve elements of the 12th Armored Division (XXI Corps) in sector without delay; (c) elements of the 9th Division and 14th Armored Division (XV Corps, Third Army) to relieve elements of 45th Division North of new boundary commencing 18 May; (d) elements of 42d Division (XV Corps) to relieve elements of 45th Division East of new boundary commencing 19 May; (e) elements of the 42d Division (XV Corps) to relieve elements of 103d Division East of new boundary commencing 19 May; (4) the 10th Armored Division (a) to relieve elements of 36th Division, 35th AAA Brigade and VI Corps Artillery in sector without delay; (b) elements of 42d Division to relieve elements of 10th Armored Division East of new VI Corps boundary commencing 19 May; (c) 10th Armored Division to vacate area vicinity of BAD TOLZ (T-8614) as Third Army is responsible for the security of the area and is authorized complete

18/. Annex No. 29.

19/. Annex No. 2.

20/. Annex No. 2.

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occupancy of the area; (5) 35th AAA Brigade to relieve elements of 10th Armored Division in the Landkreis TOLZ - PARTENKIRCHEN - SCHONGAU area without delay; (6) VI Corps Artillery to relieve elements of the 45th Infantry Division in the Landkreis MUNICH - FURSTENFELDBRUCK - FRIEDBERG - DACHAU area and elements of the 36th Division and 10th Armored Division in sector without delay and be prepared on VI Corps order to occupy part of present area of 2d French Armored Division in the Landkreis STARNBERG area; (7) the 2d French Armored Division to remain assembled in DIESSEN prepared for movement on VI Corps order; (8) Commanders to establish liaison with units relieving own elements and units being relieved and to report time of completion of reliefs; (9) all units to continue present missions in new sectors 21/.

12 May

1. The 36th, 44th, 45th and 103d Divisions continued plans and completed preparations for occupation of adjusted areas based on LANDKREIS boundaries. VI Corps Artillery policed its area, as elements initiated reconnaissance for an assembly area for the 19th German Army in the WOLFRATSHAUSEN Landkreis. An advance detachment of the 2d French Armored Division departed for METZ to prepare for movement of the Division to that area.

2. Plans were completed for the movement of the 19th German Army to its assembly area. The 44th Division was designated to be responsible for the movement of the 19th German Army and VI Corps Artillery, after selecting the general final assembly area, would assume control of the 19th German Army and administer the surrender terms. The 19th German Army was permitted to send advance parties to complete details of the bivouac in their assembly area which would be limited to areas of battalion size or larger outside of towns and villages. Command installations of divisions and higher headquarters were the only troops permitted to occupy towns and villages.

3. Due to the recent boundary change, the German XIII SS Corps was now in XV Corps sector and the 10th Armored Division was instructed to turn over the administration of these German troops to elements of the XV Corps relieving them in that sector 22/.

13 May

1. VI Corps made good progress in effecting relief of units throughout its sectors. The 36th Division relieved elements of the 35th AAA Brigade and VI Corps Artillery as well as completing adjustments in boundary with troops of the 100th Division. The 44th Division completed relief of the 103d Division elements by 1000B, while the 42d Division accomplished the relief of other 103d Division troops at 0800B. VI Corps Artillery completed their adjustment with exception of CC "B" of the 10th Armored Division which was in the process of being relieved. The 45th Division was in the process of being relieved by Third Army troops during the period.

2. Pursuant to a letter from VI Corps, dated 12 May 1945 concerning the movement of the 19th German Army to the Landkreis WOLFRATSHAUSEN area, arrangements were completed for the movement by the 44th Division. The first two motor movements starting on the mornings of Tuesday 22 May and Wednesday 23 May respectively, using German motor trucks and conveying approximately 10,000 men, were to be closed in the WOLFRATSHAUSEN area by [illegible] evening. The balance of the Army, less approximately 1,000 men, were to close in by Thursday

21/. Annex No. 23.

22/. WD, 12 May - Entries #12, 13 and 14.

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26 May using U. S. transportation. The remaining [illegible] were to move by horse-drawn transportation in four serials, [illegible] evening, with one serial leaving each succeeding night. [illegible] that the horse-drawn movement would take approximately eight nights by marching only by night, in order to keep the highways clear of their traffic in the daytime. The [illegible] in directing the movement 23/.

3. A large factory engaged in the manufacture of binoculars, grinding wheels and plastic products was discovered at [illegible] (T-0423). The plant when in operation was able to produce 6,000 binoculars, 60 tons of grinding wheels and various plastic items including parts for stoves, bombs and radios. The equipment was found in excellent condition and there was enough material on hand to finish 6,000 binoculars and 240 tons of grinding wheels 24/.

20 May

1. VI Corps units continued to adjust troops to conform with new boundaries as set forth in Corps FO Number 20 throughout 20 May.

2. Elements of the 4th Division were relieved by troops of the 12th Armored Division in sector as units of the 45th Division relieved guards of the 36th Division on four targets in the Division's sector. Although there was no change in the disposition of troops of the 44th Division, elements of the division initiated reconnaissance of routes for movement of the 19th German Army and intermediate bivouac areas for horse-drawn vehicles. Other units of VI Corps continued their activities of the previous period 25/.

3. An inspecting team composed of representatives of the Inspector General, Surgeon, Ordnance, Quartermaster and Adjutant General Sections was placed in the field for the dual purpose of informing the Corps Commander and aiding the units concerned in administration, supply and sanitation 26/.

4. Total arrests made by VI Corps during the period reached fifty-one, including twelve from the German Intelligence Service, twenty-five high ranking Nazi officials and fourteen persons threatening the security. Of the members of the German Intelligence Service captured, one of the more interesting was a Norwegian Nazi party member named LEIF SMITH, a former student of the [illegible] School under [illegible]. He was arrested by VI Corps at INNSBRUCK after vainly attempting to secure a pass from the Military Government to go to SWITZERLAND 27/.

5. Near the SCHWARZ (T-0043) a concealed underground factory was discovered that had been used for the manufacture of the latest model jet-propelled airplane, and although no finished products were found in the factory, approximately six tons of raw materials were located in compartments along the main entrance 28/.

22/. WDJ, 19 May - Entry #16; Annex No. 29.

24/. Annex No. 2.

25/. WDJ, 20 May - Entry #2.

26/. Annex No. 6.

27/. Annex No. 13.

28/. Annex No. 2.

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6. Seventh Army's letter entitled "German Chain of Command" designated the German chain of command for all surrendered forces in the Seventh Army area and directed: (a) General WESTPHAL to be Commanding General of all German forces in Seventh Army area and be responsible for the supply and administration of these forces and for the strict supervision of the execution of the terms of surrender, as well as being strictly responsible for the efficient execution of all orders transmitted to him by the Commanding General, Seventh Army, and pending further instructions not to accept orders or instructions from any other headquarters with respect to German troops now in the area of Seventh Army; (b) General BRANDENBERGER, Commanding General of the Nineteenth German Army, to be responsible for the strict supervision of the execution of the terms of surrender of units of the Nineteenth German Army and attached troops as they are moved into the Landkreis [illegible] area and be strictly responsible for the efficient execution of all orders and instructions issued to him by the Commanding General, VI U. S. Corps and pending further instructions to accept no orders except from Commanding General VI . . . Corps and General WESTPHAL; (c) each German Commander mentioned above to be responsible, under the supervision of the American Commander concerned, for the organization of all remnants of surrendered German units in his area of responsibility with self-sustaining administrative units in order to facilitate and expedite the movement, administration, supply and demobilization of all surrendered German units; (d) German Commanders concerned not to remove or replace subordinate or higher commander without first obtaining the approval of the appropriate American Commander 29/.

21 May

1. VI Corps units continued to make adjustments to conform with the area boundaries as set forth in VI Corps operations instructions [illegible] or subversive action was reported during the period [illegible] Germans from the Intelligence Service, [illegible] organizations including high-ranking Nazi officials and persons listening who security were arrested, the most outstanding [illegible] further [illegible] who was apprehended by the [illegible]

2. The 36th, 44th, 45th and 103d Infantry Divisions, [illegible] Division, 36 French [illegible] and 39th [illegible] their assigned areas, and conducted training and rehabilitation of troops. The 44th Division completed plans for the movement [illegible] the [illegible] area, while the 45th Division [illegible] Artillery [illegible] 70-mm, outpost of [illegible] area. Information from the [illegible] of captures of approximately 1,5[illegible] [illegible] its captured treasure was [illegible] of the Bavarian Government in Tegernsee.

3. Seventh Army [illegible] relieve VI Corps units in new [illegible] Wiesmoor German forces under control of [illegible] 154,000 as they are assembled in Landkreis [illegible] and later [illegible] additional German [illegible]

4. [illegible]

5. [illegible]

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22 May

1. VI Corps units continued to police and secure the [illegible] sector while the 19th German Army commenced movement to a central [illegible] area [illegible]. No hostile or others [illegible] were reported during the period, but seventy-two members of the [illegible] regime [illegible], the most outstanding of whom were [illegible], the executioner [illegible] in the [illegible] Concentration Camp, and [illegible], and [illegible] Oberstur [illegible].

2. The 44th Division commenced the movement of the 19th German Army from the [illegible] (D-3725) area to Landkreis [illegible] in the VI Corps Artillery area. Approximately 600 German motor transport, comprising one-half of 19th German Army vehicles, closed in the new area during the evening, while at 1900 approximately one-fourth of the 19th German Army horse-drawn transport commenced movement to its first march bivouac area at D-3459. The 45th Division continued movement of units to the [illegible] Landkreis and relieved elements of the 36th Division (1st Bn 143d Inf) which then moved to the [illegible] area. There was little change in dispositions of remaining Corps units, although the 2d French Armored Division prepared for movement to the [illegible] area commencing 23 May.

3. Operations Instruction No. 100 was issued directing the 2d French Armored Division (with TD Bn attached) to move, commencing 23 May, to the vicinity of [illegible], FRANCE, the unit being relieved from attachment to VI Corps and passing to control of the French Ser Ministry effective on departure from the 7th Army area, and relieving the 1st Armored Group of the responsibility of maintaining an Armored Section at Ho VI Corps, effective 10 May 31/.

4. A letter was issued by VI Corps directing all Corps units to submit a weekly report on Information and Education activities 32/.

23 May

1. In addition to the usual police and security duties, VI Corps units continued to effect reliefs and make readjustments of troops during 23 May, while movement of the 19th German Army to an assembly area South of [illegible] continued without incident. No subversive activity was reported and [illegible] additional members of the Nazi order were taken into custody, the most outstanding personalities being GLEO [illegible] (Russian member of the [illegible]), [illegible] Sturmfuehrer [illegible], and [illegible] Ortschulungsleiter [illegible].

2. The remainder of 19th German Army motor transport supervised by the 44th Division closed in the [illegible] area at approximately 2400H, while the second horse-drawn serial left the LANDECT area at 1900H enroute to its first bivouac area at D-3459. The 45th Division relieved elements of the 12th Armored Division in sector while the division artillery moved into [illegible] during the day and prepared to relieve the 2d Bn 143d Inf (36th Division). Upon being relieved in the BAD TOLZ area by elements of the 42d Division (Third Army), units of the 19th Armored Division moved into their division sector. The 2d French Armored Division commenced movement to the [illegible] area with approximately 400 vehicles clearing the VI Corps sector during the period. There were no reported changes in other Corps units.

3. Operations Instruction No. 101 was issued directing: (a) the 10th Armored Division to relieve VI Corps Artillery units in Landkreis [illegible].

31/. Annex No. 29.

32/. Annex No. 3.

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without delay; (b) the VI Corps Artillery, upon completion of relief by elements of the 10th Armored Division, to relieve XV Corps units in Landkreis EBERSBERG and AIBLING, thereafter be prepared to receive Disarmed German Forces under control of First German Army (estimated total 154,000) as they are assembled in Landkreis EBERSBERG and AIBLING by Third Army (XV Corps); (c) the 103d Division to grant Third Army running rights on SCHWAZ - INNSBRUCK - BRENNER Pass road 33/.

4. Major General WILLIAM H. H. MORRIS JR, formerly Commanding General of the 10th Armored Division, assumed command of VI Corps upon the departure of Major General EDWARD H. BROOKS 34/.

24 May

1. Occupational, police and security duties, in addition to conducting training and rehabilitation programs, comprised the principal activity of VI Corps units throughout 24 May as reliefs and readjustments of troops continued. The apprehension of Nazi party members and persons threatening the security totaled 129 during the period.

2. Under supervision of the 44th Division, the motor movement of the 19th German Army to the WOLFRATSHAUSEN Landkreis was completed and a third serial of horse-drawn vehicles commenced movement from the LANDECK area. VI Corps Artillery assumed control of the 19th German Army as it closed in the WOLFRATSHAUSEN Landkreis and preparations were made to commence the occupation of Landkreis EBERSBERG and AIBLING on 25 May. All elements of the 45th Division were relieved by Third Army units except the 180th Field Artillery Bn which remained in the vicinity of V-8782, while the 45th Division Artillery completed relief of the 2d Bn 143d Inf (36th Division). The relieved battalion assembled and prepared to move to the LANDSBERG area on 25 May. Relief of the 10th Armored Division in the BAD TOLZ area was completed by Third Army when elements of the 42d Division relieved the 54th Armd Inf Bn, the latter unit moving to the vicinity of OBERAU (T-5600). Movement of the 2d French Armored Division to the vicinity of METZ continued with approximately 1100 additional vehicles clearing the Corps sector during the period.

25 May

1. Police and security duties continued to be performed by VI Corps units during 25 May, and the readjustment of units in their new areas neared completion. VI Corps apprehended 62 members of the Nazi regime and persons threatening the security during the period, including HELMUT FROSCH (Presiding Judge of District Court of Appeals and HEINRICH GARFIS (Regierungspresident, Police President, Allgemeine SS Oberfuhrer).

2. Supervised by the 44th Division, the 19th German Army cleared LANDECK enroute to the WOLFRATSHAUSEN Landkreis. Elements of the VI Corps Artillery commenced to occupy Landkreis EBERSBERG and AIBLING, while other elements in WOLFRATSHAUSEN Landkreis were relieved by units of the 10th Armored Division. The 2d Bn 143d Inf (36th Division) moved into the WOLFRATSHAUSEN (Y-4140) area, while movement of the 2d French Armored Division out of the VI Corps sector to the vicinity of METZ proceeded without incident. No change in disposition was reported by the 45th and 103d Divisions.

3. Among the intelligence targets uncovered in the VI Corps sector, the

33/. Annex No. 29.

34/. Annex No. 30.

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following were outstanding: (a) Records of the German Army Group Africa and Sixth Army were found in the basement of the "Champignon" Cheese Factory in [redacted] (X-9411). Although neither tactical nor technical in nature, these records were from the G-1 and personnel sections and contained rosters, lists of casualties and GHQ files; (b) at [redacted] a German Naval Mapping Plant was found. Personnel formerly employed in the plant were told to remain in [redacted] and a complete roster of them was secured 35/.

26 and 27 May

1. VI Corps units continued to occupy and police their assigned areas throughout 26 and 27 May, while at the same time training and rehabilitation programs were conducted. A total of 124 subversive persons and members of the Nazi order were taken into custody, the most outstanding personalities being ALFRED [redacted] (Gestapo) and FRANZ RITTER VON [redacted] (former Maj Gen and SA Obergruppenfuehrer). Instances of deliberate sabotage were reported on 26 May with the finding of cut telephone wires in the vicinity of Y-713578 and Y-206307 and removal of a repeating coil from a telephone line at Y-712273.

2. Movement of the 19th German Army to the [redacted] Landkreis by the 44th Division continued without incident, while the 103d Division maintained a prohibited frontier zone along the AUSTRO-ITALIAN border. Elements of the VI Corps Artillery continued movement to the EBERSBERG and AIBLING Landkreis with the 69th Armored FA Bn, 17th FA Bn, 194th FA Bn and 36th FA Bn relieving elements of the 42d Division in the former area, and the 242d FA Bn and 602d FA Bn relieving elements of the 42d Division in the latter Landkreis on 27 May. Movement of the 2d French Armored Division to the METZ area continued, while the 36th, 45th and 103d Infantry Divisions and 10th Armored Division continued to occupy and police their assigned areas without incident.

3. At HOHENSCHWAIGEN (D-260885) a laboratory used for research work utilizing wood for airplane construction purposes was uncovered. A number of stress and strain testing machines, impact and measuring devices, and micro-photographic equipment of great value were included in the discovery. Professor FRANZ KOLLMAN, a Party member since 1937, was in charge of the laboratory 36/.

28 and 29 May

1. All units of VI Corps continued with the mission of occupation, police and security of their assigned areas, making no changes in troop dispositions, while at the same time training and rehabilitation programs were being conducted. The 19th German Army continued to move to the [redacted] Landkreis from the 44th Division area. One instance of subversive activity was reported in the VI Corps area on 29 May when an overhead telephone wire was found cut in the vicinity of Y-820523. Additional members of the Nazi regime, totaling 102, were apprehended, the most outstanding of whom were IVAN BAGRIANOFF (Labor and Finance Minister of the Pro-Nazi Bulgarian Government in Exile) and FRANZ [redacted] (Obersturmfuehrer in the Waffen SS).

2. All elements of the 19th German Army cleared the 44th Division area on 28 May enroute to the [redacted] Landkreis. Co C 71st Inf relieved

35/. Annex No. 33.

36/. Annex No. 33.

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Co B 410th Inf (103d Division) of the mission of guarding the VI Corps CP on 29 May, the latter company reverting to division control. There were no changes in dispositions of the 36th, 44th, 45th and 103d Infantry Divisions and 10th Armored Division, while the 2d French Armored Division cleared VI Corps area on 29 May, except for miscellaneous Ordnance detachments remaining to evacuate disabled vehicles.

3. The following information was received from XV Corps and the 7th Army Mission in connection with the movement of the 2d German Panzer Army into the HEILBRUN (Y-5521) area from the Third Army area. Commencing 29 May, approximately four trains per day for three days would leave the KARLSRUHE area, each day's movement to include an estimated thirty boxcars containing horses and twenty flatcars containing vehicles. Motor movement was expected to commence on 31 May and last four days through June 3d 37/.

4. A letter was issued by VI Corps covering the Post D-Day program to be followed by all Corps units until the formal Seventh Army Education program became effective. This letter directed all units to allot two hours a week to orientation, organize information centers, conduct an educational interest survey, establish instructor-training courses, commence "on-the-job" training and formulate plans for unit schools 38/.

5. Operations Instruction No. 102 was issued 28 May directing: (a) 44th Division to move Co C 71st Inf to VOLS (P-7854), the unit being attached to VI Corps for operations upon arrival; (b) 1697th Engr (C) Bn to move to BAD DURKHEIM (R-3195), GERMANY on 29 May, unit being relieved from attachment to VI Corps and passing to control of Fifteenth Army upon departure from the Seventh Army area; and (c) relieving Co B 410th Inf from attachment to Hq VI Corps effective 2812000B May. 39/.

6. On 29 May, Operations Instructions Nos. 103 and 104 were issued: (a) the former directing the 36th AAA Brigade to move the 451st AAA AW Bn to MANNHEIM (R-5298), GERMANY on or about 30 May, the unit being relieved from attachment to VI Corps and reverting to Seventh Army control; (b) and the latter directing Hq and Hq Co 540th Engr C Group to move to [illegible] without delay, being relieved from attachment to VI Corps and passing to control of Continental Advance Section upon departure from the Seventh Army area on or about 30 May. 40/.

7. Intelligence reconnaissance uncovered a factory at [illegible], LOUISIANA which had been engaged in the production of artillery fuzes (Model AA-[illegible]) and was owned and operated by Dr. JOSEPH COHEN. The plant could be placed into operation within four weeks producing desk model radios and electrical appliances. Large quantities of raw materials were found on hand, including 90 tons of bar steel, 25 tons of round metal for automatic screw machines, and enough parts to assemble 170,000 finished fuzes 41/.

30 and 31 May

1. There were no changes in dispositions of VI Corps units during the period except for the completion of relief of 45th Division artillery elements by the 9th Infantry Division on 30 May. The movement of the 2d German Panzer

37/. WDJ, 28 May - Entry #11; WDJ, 29 May - Entry #1.

38/. Annex No. 3.

39/. Annex No. 28.

40/. Annex No. 29.

41/. Annex No. 33.

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army into the VI Corps area progressed according to schedule, the first train closing in the [illegible] area at 2011 B 30 May and five additional trains arriving on 31 May, at which time motor movement was also commenced. Horse-drawn elements of the 19th German Army continued to move into the [illegible]HAUSEN area under supervision of VI Corps Artillery, with approximately ninety percent closing by the end of 31 May. [illegible] personnel apprehended 163 [illegible] (member of the German-French Armistice Commission), [illegible] (member of Freikorps Adolph Hitler) and [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible] son and daughter of German Foreign Minister [illegible].

2. With the relief of the 189th FA Bn by elements of the [illegible] Infantry Division (Third Army) and the closing of the former unit in the area south of [illegible] on 30 May, VI Corps troops were [illegible] completely within the Corps area. While the 19th German Army continued to close into the WOLFRATSHAUSEN area, provisional staffs from the VI Corps Artillery supervised the demobilization of this Army in their sectors commencing 30 May. Elements of CC "B" 10th Armored Division coordinated the movement of the 2d German Panzer Army with the 3d Infantry Division which was responsible for moving this Army from the Third Army area to the VI Corps area. Four trains were reported to have left the 3d Division sector on 29 May, the first train arriving at WEILHEIM at 2011B 30 May. Five additional trains closed in the WEILHEIM area on 31 May, each train having approximately fifty to sixty-five cars. All trains carrying the 2d German Panzer Army were reported to have left the 3d Division area enroute to the WEILHEIM area. Motor movement of the 2d German Panzer Army crossed the IB in the vicinity of [illegible] at 1800 B 31 May and the convoy bivouacked in the vicinity of [illegible] preparatory to moving into the VI Corps area on 1 June.

3. A Memorial Day Service was held on 30 May 1945 at [illegible] for the officers and men of VI Corps who had fallen in battle. The Corps Commander, Maj Gen E. H. H. [illegible], Jr., delivered the Memorial Tribute and placed the Memorial Wreath on the monument erected for the occasion. The Invocation, Prayer, and Scripture Reading were offered, respectively, by the VI Corps Chaplain WILLIAM E. KING (Prot.), the assistant Corps Chaplain JOHN [illegible] (Cath.), and Capt [illegible] (Jewish) of the 166th Medical Battalion 42/.

CONCLUSION

1. By the end of the period, VI Corps had promulgated and maintained security measures throughout its sector. Prohibited frontier zones were established along the AUSTRO-SWISS and AUSTRO-ITALIAN borders and Landkreis MEMMINGEN - MINDELHEIM - SCHWABMUNCHEN - FRIEDBERG - DACHAU - MUNCHEN - [illegible]SBERG - AIBLING - WOLFRATSHAUSEN, as well as parts of Landkreis TOLZ - SCHWAZ - REUTTE and KEMPTEN, were being occupied and policed by Corps units.

2. Arrests and detentions for the period totaled 1886, including 564 high-ranking Nazis, 514 members of Para-military organizations, 105 members of the SICHERHEITSPOLIZEI, 79 members of the German Intelligence Service and 624 subversive persons. Some 249,438 displaced persons were located in the area, 94,467 of whom were in displaced persons camps. Approximately 40,000 Italians were transported to Italy via the BRENNER Pass over railroad lines reconstructed by VI Corps Engineers 43/.

42/. Annex No. 18.

43/. Annexes Nos. 5, 9 and 33.

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3. The 19th German Army had been successfully moved to an assembly area in Landkreis WOLFRATSHAUSEN under the control and guidance of the 44th Infantry Division, the 10th Armored Division and the 206th Military Police Company. The 2d German Panzer Army was enroute to Landkreis [redacted] 44/.

4. Throughout the period numerous problems in connection with the administration and demobilization of the German Armies were successfully coped with by VI Corps. The Armies were assembled, processed and their equipment inventoried and gathered into dumps. Control commissions processed all imprisoned Army personnel by screening through PW teams, individual history, classification by occupation and residence, medical examination and authentication of final D-2 Certificate 45/.

5. The civil administration of the German populace was proceeding satisfactorily as the Military Government entered the long-range occupational phase. Germans continued to cooperate with American authorities and only minor incidents of public disorder occurred. Public utilities made rapid strides, most communities having water and electric service. Banks were operating in all of the larger communities and in some of the smaller ones. Although the civilian food supply was short the populace realized the critical shortage and were industriously cultivating the land and planting crops to ultimately help alleviate the shortage 46/.

6. Within the Corps command proper, Corps' training of its troops covering military courtesy, rehabilitation, orientation, maintenance of an Information and Education program and physical training were actively conducted and participated in throughout the period with the interest of the men encouragingly high 47/.

7. There was no critical shortage, at the end of the month, in any class of supply and the improved conditions of road and rail transportation under the supervision of Corps Engineers made movements of supplies normal and regular 48/.

8. Signal communications were stabilized and by the end of the period first rate commercial circuits had been restored 49/.

9. Health of the command continued to be excellent although cases of recurrent malaria among troops that had participated in the SICILIAN and ITALIAN Campaigns were prevalent. This rate, however, appeared to be closely correlated to fatigue and exposure of troops. Suppressive atabrine therapy was instituted in units showing high incidence of malaria 50/.

10. Although there was an appreciable decrease in the number of military offenses warranting trial by General Court-Martial, there was a marked increase in the number of common law or civil crimes especially those committed against the person or property of local inhabitants. Special and Summary Court-Martial cases increased noticeably due probably to the clean up of pending administrative matters after the cessation of hostilities and a greater use of Court-Martial procedure for minor cases 51/.

11. Pursuant to the provisions of the Army Readjustment Plan, administration for the redeployment of Corps units was instigated 52/.

44/. Annexes Nos. 3 and 17.
45/. Annexes Nos. 1, 3, 4, 8 and 15.
46/. Annexes Nos. 5 and 9.
47/. Annex No. 3.
48/. Annexes Nos. 4, 9 and 10.
49/. Annex No. 11.
50/. Annex No. 13.
51/. Annexes Nos. 12 and 17.
52/. Annex No. 1.

W. H. H. MORRIS JR,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

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ANNEXES TO VI CORPS HISTORY - 11-31 MAY 1945

#1 - G-1 Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#2 - G-2 Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#3 - G-3 Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#4 - G-4 Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#5 - G-5 Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#6 - IG Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#7 - AG Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#8 - Ord Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#9 - Engineer Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#10 - QM Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#11 - Signal Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#12 - SJA Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#13 - Surgeon Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#14 - Finance Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#15 - CWS - Ln Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#16 - Armored Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#17 - PM Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#18 - Chaplain Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#19 - Spec Serv Summary of Activities, 11-31 May 45
#20 - Roster of Officers, Hq VI Corps, 30 May 45
#21 - Changes in Officer Personnel, Hq VI Corps, 11-31 May 45
#22 - Report of Strength, Battle Casualties, Decorations and Awards, Hq, Hq Co, Comp Serv Co and MP Plat, VI Corps - 11-31 May 45
#23 - VI Corps Combat Troop List, 13 May 45
#24 - Changes in Troop Attachments and Detachments, Hq VI Corps - 11-31 May 45
#25 - Photographs (with orig only)
#26 - VI Corps G.O. No. 41, 23 May 45, Assumption of Command by Major General WILLIAM H. H. MORRIS, JR.
#27 - VI Corps G.O. No. 38, 21 May 45, Appointment of Major Enrico Dell'Osso as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.
#28 - VI Corps G.O. No. 45, 27 May 45, Announcement of Colonel Richard Steinbach as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1.
#29 - VI Corps Operations Instructions Nos. 94 through 104, inclusive - 11-31 May 45, and VI Corps Ltr, 19 May, subject: Movement 19th German Army to Landkreis Wolfratshausen area (with orig only)
#30 - 7th Army Operations Instructions Nos. 154, 156 and 158 - 11-31 May 45, 7th Army Ltr, 15 May, subject: Movement of Disarmed German Forces, and 7th Army Ltr, 20 May, subject: German Chain of Command (with orig only)
#31 - Map of VI Corps Zone of Occupation

UNDER SEPARATE COVER: (1 copy only)

#32 - G-1 Journal, 11-31 May 45
#33 - G-2 Journals (Including G-2 Intelligence Bulletins), 11-31 May 45
#34 - War Room Journals, 11-31 May 45
#35 - VI Corps G-3 Reports, 11-31 May 45
#36 - G-4 Journal with Supporting Papers, 11-31 May 45
#37 - G-5 Journal, 11-31 May 45
#38 - IG Journal, 11-31 May 45
#39 - AG Journal, 11-31 May 45
#40 - Ord Journal, 11-31 May 45
#41 - Engineer Journal, 11-31 May 45
#42 - QM Journal, 11-31 May 45
#43 - Signal Journal, 11-31 May 45
#44 - SJA Journal, 11-31 May 45
#45 - Surgeon Journal, 11-31 May 45
#46 - Finance Journal, 11-31 May 45
#47 - CWS - Ln Journal, 11-31 May 45
#48 - PM Journal, 11-31 May 45
#49 - Chaplain Journal, 11-31 May 45
#50 - SSO Journal, 11-31 May 45
#51 - G-3 Reports, S-3 Reports, F.O.s, O.I.s, etc. of VI Corps Units and other Headquarters.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the A. C. of S., G-1
APO 46 US ARMY

10 June 1945.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 11-31 MAY 1945

I. INDIVIDUAL REDEPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES:

A. The status of personnel since the cessation of hostilities in ETOUSA has been confused by the delay in putting into effect the Army Readjustment Plan. This plan, which calls for the redeployment of units and the readjustment of individuals is based upon a classification of all units into four categories. Depending upon its classification each unit must anticipate entirely different personnel requirements. However, during May only the newest and most inexperienced units were in a position to forecast their status with any assurance.

B. Unit redeployment has already commenced, but the personnel adjustment within alerted units is not accomplished until after departure from VI Corps control. The personnel data for G-3 status reports on such units, collected at the Corps level, is the basis for the readjustment which is later effected in the assembly area. This data includes:

1. Units will complete any uncompleted Adjusted Service Rating Cards with information as of 2400E May 12, 1945. This applies also to hospitalized personnel in confinement whose personnel records are still with the organization.

2. Require medical examinations to insure all persons meet physical standards, including dental surveys.

3. Alerted units will ascertain that current requisitions are sufficient to fill T/O. (Alerted units are authorized 2% over T/O). An additional list will be submitted for all personnel with an Adjusted Service Rating score of 85 points and above. Personnel having a score of 85 or higher who are considered to be militarily necessary must be reported at once to Corps or Division board of review.

4. Alerted units will have on hand the up-to-date analysis of EM eligible for reconversion training program. (Incl 2, ETOUSA Letter, Subject: "Manpower", 17 April 1945).

5. All units alerted for movement under redeployment will take prompt action to insure that the trial of all general court-martial cases are expedited. Arrangements will be made for immediate trials or the taking of depositions in appropriate cases prior to the departure of essential witnesses. In capital cases, since depositions may not be used, requests for transfer of essential witnesses may be submitted to Headquarters Seventh Army through channels, in order to prevent miscarriages of justice. (Seventh Army Weekly Directive No. 22, 2 June 1945).

Annex #1

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6. WD AGO Forms 971 (V-Mail change of address notice) or 971-1 (V-Mail notice to suspend mailing until further notice) will be prepared by all individuals. (SOP #17B, Postal Procedures for Redeployment and Readjustment).

7. Check qualifications of all personnel for assigned duties.

8. Preparation and disposition of unit rosters in accordance with RR 1-2, Procedure for Readjustment Movement, WD, 15 September 1944 and SOP #61. ETO-POM-RED 19 May 1945.

9. Check all administrative and personnel records to insure accuracy and completeness.

10. Liquidation of unit exchanges will be accomplished in accordance with par 17-20, inclusive, of ETO-SOP No. 25, Subject: "Activation, Operation and Liquidation of Army Exchanges, 15 June 1944, as amended.

11. Upon receipt of movement orders individuals will be advised by the unit commander of the last sentence of the 28th Article of War, reading as follows:

"Any person subject to military law who quits his organization or place of duty with the intent to avoid hazardous duty or to shirk important service shall be deemed a deserter". (SOP #61, ETO-POM-RED 19 May 1945).

C. Return of personnel to the United States in lieu of readjustment under RR 1-1 and RR 1-5 is by spasmodic quota sub-allocated from Seventh Army. At present this quota includes only 1% officers and is announced at irregular interval. During the period 11-31 May the quota for VI Corps was 82 enlisted men.

D. Eligibility for readjustment is substantially on the following basis:

Officers (Par 3b, RR 1-5)
- Military necessity
- Efficiency
- Desire to be retained in military service
- Adjusted Service Rating score

Enlisted Men (Par F, RR 1-1)
- Adjusted Service Rating score

Such redeployment, however, may be delayed by (a) Lack of qualified replacements with less than the critical score, (b) Military necessity.

II. GERMAN DISBANDMENT ACTIVITIES:

A. Documentation of members of the 19th German Army was proceeding under VI Corps Ln Section headed by Lt Col Davison on 11 May 1945. Ln Section was absorbed by Sixth Army Group Control Commission under Colonel Andersson, 14 May, and plans extended to cover elements of 19th German Army in French sectors. After relief of Sixth Army Group surrendered troops were consolidated under commands in following areas:

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Concentration Areas.

1st German Army	EBERSBERG-AIBLING	VI Corps Arty
19th German Army	WOLFRATSHAUSEN	VI Corps Arty
2nd Panzer Army	WEILHEIM	10th Armd Div

XV Corps

36th Inf Div	BISSENHAUSEN
44th Inf Div	FRUTZ
45th Inf Div	UNTER-BIBERG
103d Inf Div	RUM
10th Armd Div	GARMISCH

B. Difficulties were overcome by local reproduction of documentation forms and additional IPW teams were eventually secured from Seventh Army. Some delay was caused by lack of funds, but necessary cooperation with Military Government officials has now released adequate Marks. Transport is being furnished by Area command units to deliver discharged personnel to proximity of their homes in Seventh Army Area. Evacuation to 3d Army area has been arranged on a reciprocal basis. Movements are scheduled 72 hours in advance.

C. Control commissions have been set up in concentration areas to process all imprisoned army personnel. Processing consists of screening by IPW teams, individual history, classification by occupation and residence, medical examination and authentication of final D-2 certificate. German representatives approve classification and make final payment from Army funds.

D. Authorization for discharge has been extended to include Austrians in Seventh Army areas. Cooperation of German commands has been excellent to date.

RICHARD STEINBACH
Colonel, G.S.C.
A. C. of S., G-1.

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[illegible]
HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46 US ARMY

5 June 1945

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Adjutant General, VI Corps

SUBJECT : Report of G-2 Activities for period 10 May to 31 May 1945

I. AUTOMATIC ARRESTS AND DETENTION TOTALS FOR THE PERIOD

	(Prior to 20)	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Totals
German Intel Serv	44	6	0	0	0	3	8	3	7	2	2	4	79
Sicherheitspolizei	69	3	1	3	8	4	3	0	1	1	7	5	105
Para-military Org	217	24	26	12	47	17	26	30	23	16	44	32	514
High Ranking Nazis	302	31	27	13	49	26	29	12	28	11	24	14	564
Security Threats	282	22	18	8	25	12	8	11	8	5	18	238	624

VI Corps total as of 31 May: [illegible]

A brief resume of the most interesting personalities apprehended during the period follows:

1. Adolf and Ursula von Ribbentrop, [illegible] and [illegible] year old son and daughter respectively of German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop, were picked up at [illegible] (E-3780), 31 May. Dr Faiko Lanier, personal physician of von Ribbentrop and Nurse Elizabeth Richter who were posing as parents of the children were arrested along with [illegible] and member of the Gestapo.

2. Douglas Chandler, alias "Paul Revere", [illegible] collaborator, [illegible] propagandist and Traitor.

Chandler was arrested in [illegible], on 15 May, the 206th CIC Det. He is the son of an assistant professor at [illegible] University. He was privately educated in America and married the great-great grandmaughter of John Jay in [illegible]. In [illegible], because of [illegible] Chandler and his wife decided to travel to [illegible]. During the [illegible] he received [illegible] in [illegible]. It was in this capacity as [illegible] he made friends with many people in [illegible]. [illegible] of English "intellectuals" [illegible] influence as well as the [illegible] ardent Nazi [illegible]. It was at this time, about January [illegible] accepted the job as Radio Propagandist. [illegible] the early part of [illegible] vicious [illegible] Socialist. [illegible] forced into a war [illegible] of the world. [illegible] was the best [illegible] has written [illegible] Jays. [illegible] in [illegible].

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3. Franz Hofer, Gauleiter, Gau [illegible] was apprehended at his home at [illegible], Vorderberg, [illegible] Tirol, AUSTRIA. Hofer was born in [illegible] in 1902. He [illegible] Nazi Party in 1931. In 1932 when the [illegible] leiter of his present [illegible]. From 1933 to 1938, he was in [illegible] a refugee from AUSTRIA. Later he returned to [illegible] where, in 1938, he received the rank of Obergruppenführer of the [illegible] (National Socialist Motor Corps) and in 1943 he became Oberstaatskommissar of Tirol-Vorarlberg.

Hofer claimed that he never [illegible] believed in [illegible] that National Socialism was the only salvation for [illegible]. He was a [illegible] lover of the TYROL. When he was apprehended, he requested that he be shot and not imprisoned. He said he was willing to die for his "ideals".

II. SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES FROM 10 to 31 MAY 1945

1. On 10 May 45, a civilian child opened the door of an abandoned German truck at the [illegible] airfield. This caused an explosion setting the vehicle and an adjacent truck afire. This was the only reported booby-trap in the [illegible] area.

2. Between 112300B and 120100B May 45, Bukar was alleged to have been placed in gas tank of 1/4 ton peep of 45 Rcn (Mecz) Troop. Mechanical inspection of vehicle determined sucrose sediment in carburetor. Location of act was Y-813580.

3. 12 May 45 - Telephone wires and cables between LAMBECK (V-3944) and [illegible] (V-4637) and between LAMBECK and [illegible] (D-2763) were cut; in some instances 200 yd lengths were completely removed.

4. 14 May 45 - Friendly patrol was fired on vic [illegible] (D-4071) from D-174832 and D-187843.

5. 16 May 45 - Line cut twice at Y-882168 and Y-884245.

6. 19 May 45 - Telephone line cut by sharp instrument vic Y-861541.

7. 20 May 45 - Telephone line cut by sharp instrument vic Y-819514.

8. 24 May 45 - Telephone line leading from switchboard to "A" Etry [illegible] between two stones vic Y-395830. Civilians reported that two men (dressed in civilian clothes) dislodged 3 large rocks from top of hill at [illegible] (D-372507). It could not be determined if intentions were to hit [illegible] possibly injure personnel who might be passing on road.

9. 26 May 45 - Loading coil removed at Y-717373. Wire removed at Y-715[illegible] and Y-706377. Telephone line leading from switchboard to traffic check post cut by sharp instrument vic Y-406778.

10. 27 May 45 - Fifty feet of telephone line leading from switchboard to traffic check post removed by cutting at both ends with sharp instrument vic Y-402778. Wire was rolled and left in yard of near-by post office.

11. 29 May 45 - Overhead telephone wire cut vic Y-82[illegible]. Height of overhead clearance precluded accidental severing by passing vehicle.

12. 31 May 45 - Suspected sniper fired on vehicle at Y-647427 at [illegible]. [illegible] round passed through windshield, but no casualties.

III. [illegible]

A total of 874 targets were uncovered or investigated by the Corps T-Force and Div T-Force during the period. Over fifty percent of these installations were targets of opportunity. A summary of the four most interesting targets follows:

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1. Factory, WATTEN (Z-916625). This factory was engaged in the manufacture of binoculars, grinding wheels and plastic products. This plant is not in operation at present but just before the American troops came, it employed approx 1200 men, some of them being slave laborers. The factory was able to produce per month 6,000 binoculars, 60 tons of grinding wheels and various plastic items including parts for mines, bombs, radios, etc. There was included a tool room in which the plant's machinery was made. The equipment is still in coherent condition and there is enough material on hand to finish 65,000 binoculars and 245 tons of grinding wheels. An underground plant was partially finished, which could have produced 30% of factory production.

2. Factory, Shore of ACHEN SEE (D-996837). Parts for one of Germany's latest model jet-propelled airplane were made in this underground factory. Here also some Russian and Polish slave laborers were used. Even though no finished products were found there were approx six tons of raw materials on hand located in compartments along the main entrance. The equipment, including machine lathes and drill presses, was in operating condition when found. All contents of the files in the office rooms had been removed prior to the advent of the american troops. In all there were two machine rooms, two small offices and one stock room.

3. Train Factory - IMST (D-3695). The contents of this entire train (26 cars) are believed to have come from the MAUSER factory. Evidently the train had been bombed or strafed and as a result some of the cars were completely burned and others only partly destroyed. The plant is set up to complete the development of a new 20mm automatic weapon model MK2L44. Included aboard the train were bicycles for the workers, machines for making and boring barrels, a complete 20mm gun minus carrier, tools and parts for small arms, 15-20 cases of papers and records and a supply of food. Train commander and director Otto von Lessnitzer and his assistant Dr Kurt Fleck are residing in IMST and are anxious to continue work on this project.

4. Wind Tunnel - IMST (2 of IMST). This project was under construction for the advancement of aero-dynamics. The reservoir and dam, intended to supply power for the wind tunnel, would have been completed in about 8 weeks. The water and wind tunnels could have been completed in another 5 or 6 months. The project was begun in 1932, and over 1000 laborers had been employed. Of the material necessary to finish the work, 80% is on hand at the site and 20% is available at the manufacturers in LANDSBERG or [illegible]. The tunneling for the wind tunnel is complete. The underground section of the water tunnel is 600 meters in length and the open section is 800 meters long, both completed. The entire construction has not been damaged in any way.

[illegible]
Colonel, [illegible]
A. C. of S., G-2.

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1. Training:

A G-3's Training Conference was held [illegible] to all units [illegible] and small units problems. All the divisions [illegible] Directives on their unit's instruction, then to observe training, stressing in general the points left out in the Directive from this [illegible] limited training due to almost 100% occupation with duties of [illegible] disbanded. Ground forces within the area, [illegible] team from the G-3 Section has inspected the training, with all other G-3 activities, of at least one major unit of this command per day. Training was found to be progressing satisfactorily and to [illegible].

2. Publications:

The following publications were produced by the G-3 Section during the period:

Orders (matrix):
84 - 111200, Ray 45
96 - 121200
97 - 111200
99 - 171600
100 - 241700
101 - 231200
102 - 280600
103 - 291 00
104 - 291 00

Troops (memos):
12 - 2[illegible] ay 45
13 - 31 ay 45 - Alert forces

Training (memos):
7 - 15 ay 45

3. Redeployment:

The following units were alerted for early movement out of the Corps area for redeployment:

824th [illegible]
781st Tk Bn
772d Tk Bn
34th Spec Serv Co
736th Ord Co
107th Cml Mtn Sq

Status reports were being accomplished by these units at the end of the period, but no movement orders have as yet been received from higher hqs.

4. Air:

This section has taken over the responsibility of scheduling air travel for members of XI Corps Headquarters. [illegible] or about 14 Jan 45, members of 72d Ln Sq were recalled to parent unit, leaving the Corps Air DP short of L-5 type planes. The air DP then was assembled and replenished, to [illegible] returned Germans in aircraft, which were immediately placed in service. Accurate information as to the location of airstrips in the Army sector has been available on call. Complete information has been issued pertaining to air travel and priority. Two message center points have been made to each division each day, weather permitting.

5. Movement, Planning and Control Section:

Supervision of all motor movements (10 or more vehicles) was maintained throughout the Corps sector. In addition to providing routes and road-condition information to all Corps units. Large troop movements during period included moves of the following units:

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a. 36th Inf Div KITZ[illegible] (F5181) to [illegible] (Y1524)
b. 2 [illegible] (Fr) from [illegible] (Y5133) to [illegible]
c. 19th German Army from LA [illegible] (Y4044) area to [illegible] (Y7530) area.
d. 1st German Army from [illegible] (2972[illegible]) area to [illegible] (Z1551) area.
e. 2d German Panzer Army (Rail and Motor) from [illegible] area to [illegible] (Y5[illegible]21). (Move still in progress at end of period).

6. I and E:

A letter was issued on 22 May 45 directing that all Corps units submit a weekly report on I & E activities. On 25 May 45 a letter was issued covering the Post R-Day Program to be followed by all Corps units until the formal Seventh Army Education Program goes into effect. This letter directed that all units allot two hours a week to Orientation, organize Information Centers, conduct an educational interest survey, establish Instructor-Training Courses, commence On-The-Job training and formulate plans for Unit Schools. The film "Two Down and One To Go" was scheduled to all units and by the 30th of May 95% of the Corps had attended the film. The films were rescheduled to obtain the objective of 100% attendance by all personnel in the Corps. From the units weekly I & E Reports, daily [illegible] Inspection Teams and personal visits to the units by members of the Corps I & E Section it has been determined that the I & E Program in the Corps is progressing very satisfactorily. All units are conducting two hours a week of Orientation, some units have completed their educational interest survey and plans are being made for start[illegible] Unit Schools and On-The-Job training. Plans were formulated by the Corps I & E Section for Corps Technical School which would include such [illegible] as watch repair, auto mechanics, body and [illegible] work, and [illegible] repair.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the A. C. of S., G-4
A. P. O. 74, U. S. Army

ACTIVITIES OF G-4 SECTION, VI CORPS - 11 to 31 MAY 1945

I. GENERAL SITUATION

Following the surrender of the 19th German Army and the establishment of the Corps C.P. at Igls, Austria, a general program of stabilization was undertaken. Supply lines, which for so long had been extended to the breaking point, were speedily reduced to normal length. Once areas had been assigned to the divisions a concentrated program of rehabilitation, reconstruction and cleaning up was undertaken.

The surrendered 19th German Army, plus other enemy troops, both surrendered and captured, within the Corps area were assembled, processed, and their equipment inventoried and gathered into dumps according to its respective categories.

The tremendous amount of captured material and installations which were overrun in the closing days of the campaign required the attention of a great many troops both for guarding purposes and for handling and collecting of the movable material.

Later in the month, because of the lack of rural facilities, the 19th German Army was moved from the Graz area to a landkreis south of Munich where administrative difficulties could be handled more efficiently.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS

With the end of the tactical situation a certain amount of administrative policies had to be established.

A general police up of the entire Corps area was undertaken both by the military units and the civilians, who were ordered to clean up their areas through Military Government channels. Garbage and refuse dumps were established in all unit areas and shower and laundry units were moved into centrally located areas as to facilitate the general appearance of the troops. Battle jackets were issued to all troops and emphasis was placed on military appearance and dress.

The alerting of several attached units necessitated the preparation of an alert status report, to aid alerted units in clearing up their records, turning in excess equipment and requisitioning shortages. Check teams from the Special Staff contacted each unit as well as an officer from the G-4 Section.

Definite instructions on the use of captured vehicles and trailers were issued, deadlines for compliance and check points for enforcement were established.

A rigid program of guarding captured material and installations was undertaken and a system established for consolidating and reporting this material. Because of the vast amount of this material in the Corps area, and lacking instructions from higher headquarters, plans were laid for the collection of all loose and movable captured war material into centrally located areas which would facilitate ease of evacuation.

All equipment in excess of T/OE was ordered turned in to the nearest respective supply branch.

An inventory by all units of all Army Service Force material in their possession was ordered to be submitted to Headquarters Seventh Army.

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III. SUPPLY SITUATION

The supply situation at the beginning of the month was generally good. As supply lines stabilized units experienced little difficulty in establishing a definite supply plan.

The two truck companies which had been operating with the 10th Arm'd Division were returned to Army control and Army was able to establish normal supply setups throughout the area.

The increased rail transportation aided greatly in sup ly and the evacuation of PW's and DP's.

The truck company attached to Corps continued to be steadily occupied, assisting in the movement of PW's and DP's and later helping to move the 19th German Army..

The movement of the 19th German Army from the 44th Div area to an area south of Munich necessitated the use of many Corps vehicles and the establishment of gas and ration dumps in the new German Army area to aid in completing the move.

At the close of the month the supply situation was excellent. There were no critical shortages in any class of sup ly and the improved condition of both rail and road transportation made movement of all supplies normal and regular.

--*-*-*-*-*-*-*

SUMMARY OF G-4 ACTIVITIES WITH THE GERMAN 19th ARMY

A representative of this section was sent to the 19th German Army as a member of the VI Corps Liaison Staff to see that all instructions contained in Annex "B" to letter Hq VI Corps, 7 May 1945, AG 3 4, were clear to both the 44th Inf Div and the 19th German Army. To accomplish this a meeting was arranged between the G-4's of both the 44th Div and the 19th German Army. Precise instructions were given to the 19th Army and arrangements made for the Special Staff sections of both organizations to meet, inspect equipment and arrange for its collection in accordance with instructions. Periodic checks were made to ascertain that this collection of equipment was going according to plan. Daily interviews were held with the G-4, 19th Army to discuss any problems of policy that might come up in regard to the collection program. Ammunition dumps, ration dumps, gas dumps, hospitals and hospital trains, and many service units in the Army were inspected.

The most serious problem at the outset was the somewhat limited ration stock. Extensive surveys were ordered to establish the amount of rations on hand with troops. It was discovered that the groups could feed themselves through the dates indicated: Group 1 (4847 men) 16 May; Group 2 (8581 men) 17 May; Group 3 (7850 men) 16 May; Group 4 (2009 men) 24 May; Group 5 (589 men) 28 May.

Relative strengths of the various groups were such that shifting of the rations was not considered practical. Plans were made to send the G-4 of the 19th Army to the G-4 of Army Group "B" with requisition to cover the needs of the Army and to make arrangements for the continued supply of the army from German sources. In order to meet emergency ration needs, the G-4 of the 19th Army was instructed not to issue any rations from his Army stock until released by the 44th Div. Meanwhile, Corps made arrangements with Seventh Army to move 40,000 K rations to the Army Class I dump at Martenkirchen.

The 44th Div took over the entire gasoline stock of the 19th Army and released it only on [illegible] of the German Chief of Staff.

Medical depots were found to have a satisfactory supply of drugs on hand although there was a shortage of flea powder and disinfectants. In order to better the sanitary conditions of the various camps, 19th Army surgeons made morning inspections of all personnel and living quarters. Arrangements were made thru the 44th Div Surgeon to evacuate two hospital trainloads of wounded to field hospitals in the Landeck area.

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Lengthy questioning of Major von Stulpnagel, G-4 of the 19th Army, with the intent of discovering the possible location of German Army base depots or hoarded supplies in Northern Italy or Southern Germany, revealed nothing. He maintained that the Army was supplied on an automatic delivery basis once every three weeks during combat and the location of the stock piles were unknown to him.

The completed collection of equipment and the making of necessary inventories was started completed on the 16th of April. Difficulties encountered in moving material into assembly areas delayed the completion until the following day. These inventories were turned over to the 44th Division for control.

When the 19th Army was ordered moved from the 44th Division area to the VI Corps Artillery area, the [redacted] representative coordinated the assembly of trucks from the 44th Division and VI Corps truck company and accompanied the movement to the new area. Gasoline on hand in the 19th Army area was not sufficient to enable the move to be made to the new area and [redacted] Army stocks furnished 4,000 gallons of gasoline and 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel. Arrangements for future supply was made with German Army depots in the Munich area.

Upon completion of the move liaison was established with the VI Corps Artillery team that was to work with the 19th Army. A briefing and review of past events was given to the VI Corps Artillery liaison team and then control was turned over to the VI Corps Artillery.

M. LEE
G-4

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Auth: CG,VI C.
Init: ED
Date: 3 June 45

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
A. C. of S., G-5
APO 46

014.13

3 June 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Summery of G-5 Activities.

TO : Commanding General, VI Corps, APO 46, US Army.
(Attn.: C/S).

1. Area covered: At the conclusion of the period MG personnel was located in all of the Division areas, the 35th AAA Brigade and VI Corps Arty area. The MG responsibility for the entire VI Corps area is now rested in three G-Teams located respectively at Innsbruck, Munich and Augsburg. Although the strenght of the Detachments operating in the field is not up to their T/O's, efforts are being made to bring in the necessary personnel.

2. Civil Administration: MG is at the present moment moving into the long-range occupational phase. Careful, but slow work is being done in the removal and final appointments of Burgermeisters. The Special Service Branch of Public Safety is beginning the long task of Vetting all civil employees. The centralization of food gathering and distribution is proceeding satisfactorily.

3. Political: In Germany there has been no political activity or movement of any note. In Austria political activity continues with the Free Austrian Movement as the most active and most reliable. Three others have sprung up under the names of:(a) South Tyrolese Group; (b) Hungarian Committee and (c) Communist Group. They are all located in Innsbruck.

4. Press and Radio: Determined efforts have been made to get press and radio into operation. Radio Munich and Radio Augsburg are in operation. Newspapers printed by PWB are also in circulation. Permission has been granted for the operation of Radio Innsbruck. Salzburg is to work out the details and direct the program.

5. Public Relations: The relationship between the German, Austrian people and the American authorities continues to be good. There have been no incidents of failure to cooperate, despite the heavy burden placed on the local communities in providing food and shelter for DP's.

6. Public Safety: Public order, in general, has been good. There have been instances of looting and some cases of minor rioting at some of the DP Camps. Civil Police forces are functioning in most of the larger communities. Innsbruck Police are to go into uniform very soon.

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Tab 5

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Monthly Summary of G-5 Activities (Contn'd) -2-

7. Legal: Several summary courts are in operation and the majority of offences have been curfew violations. There have been quite a number of convictions for looting and possession of looted goods. Sentences have been imposed extending from 10 days to 6 months. Fines have been levied from 10 to 5,000 R.M.

8. Finance: Banks are operating in all of the larger communities and in some of the smaller ones. Allied Military Marks are accepted and there seems to be sufficient currency to handle all business. Over two million captured R.M. were made available for use in Austria by Finance Officer Hq VI Corps.

9. Civilian Supply: The responsibilities for Civilian Supply are gradually settling in the hands of the Food and Supply Officer for the "E" Teams. The local food administration machinery is being rehabilitated and are now beginnign to draw from the former normal sources of supply. Complete and accurate figures on the status of food is still very difficult. It is clear that food is still short and help must come from outside sources. Area is short in flour, fats, oils and meats.

10. Agriculture: Determined efforts to get people out into the fields and to get land under cultivation have borne fruit. People seem to have realized that the situation is critical and many are to be seen working in the fields. A continued stream of people coming from the towns and cities to the country can be seen, either to cultivate a single, small plot of ground or to buy vegetables.

11. Industry and Commerce: 12th AG has organized an Economic Council whose responsibility will be to rehabilitate industry. To date only small manufacturers on a local basis have been operating.

12. Labor: Labor offices are now in operation in most of the area. Most of the civilian labor is being used by the municipalities. More and more are being called for by the military especially in the larger cities.

13. Public Works and Utilities: The rehabilitation of Public Works and Utilities has has gone ahead rapidly. Most communities have now water and electric service. Gas is available in only limited quantities and in the larger communities. Sewage disposal is in sufficiently good condition as not to be a health hazard.

14. Communication: Military authorities have done excellent work in the re-establishment of communications, telephones and roads. Although in condition to be used, Army has prohibited the use of local telephones until further notice.

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15. Transportation: The transportation problem of the area have been met by the military in most cases. MG is working on a program for reclaiming civilian trucks and former Whermacht vehicles. These are to be formed into civilian motor pools and used in essential community services. Since there are no stores of gasoline, and no civilian allocations as yet, only wood burning od Diesel trucks can be utilized.

16. Public Health: The state of civilian health continues to be good. Civilian medical service is adequate and in emergencies military medical assistance is provided.

17. Refugees and Displaced Persons: Displaced Persons continue to be the main major problem of the area. As of June 3 1945 there were 94,467 DP's in Camps and 154,971 in the area but not in Camps, making a total of 249,438. The organized camps are by Displaced Persons Teams, seven of which are now UNNRA. Many of the smaller camps are being operated by Provisional DP Teams from the Military Units in the area.

There has been a rather successful repatriation program in operation in this area which has been of unestimable value in relieving the pressure on food and housing. To date some 40,000 Italians have been moved into Italy via the Brenner Pass. About 10,000 French, Dutch, Belgian and Luxembourger- have also been moved through Bregenz, Austria, and Czechs to Pilsen, Czekoslovakia. Plans are now under way for the establishing of a Transit Center for Italians at Camp Reichenau (Innsbruck) which will handle 2,000 persons daily for transhipment by train to Italy, as soon as the 5th Army trains are ready to move from the Brenner Pass to Bolzano. VI Corps Engineers have completed the lines into The Brenner P ass from our Area.

ENRICO DELL'OSSO
Lt. Col., GSC
AC of S., G-5

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Inspector General
A.P.O. 46, U. S. Army

2 June 1945

Activities of the Inspector General Section During the Period

11 - 31 May 1945

1. Four investigations were in process of being completed. One charge of rape against a white soldier was withdrawn after menstration period. One charge of rape against colored soldiers - no colored Corps troops were in the town. One claim for missing private property will be disapproved because many items on the list as stolen were found in the owner's home. One case of improper trial by Special Court.

2. An inspecting team, under the supervision of this section, composed of representatives of the Surgeon, Ordnance, Quartermaster and Adjutant General Sections was trained and placed in the field. Nine battalions and three separate companies were inspected. These inspections are conducted for the dual purpose of informing the Corps Commander and helping the unit concerned in administration, supply and sanitation. Reports from the unit commanders are most favorable.

3. Recreation trips, shows, return to the United States under the point system and better living conditions are definately aiding our morale problems.

N. L. ADAMS,
Colonel, I.G.D.,
VI Corps Inspector General.

Annex #6

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Adjutant General
APO [illegible], U. S. Army

15 June 1945

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 11-31 MAY 1945

1. In addition to the normal functions of processing all administrative communications of the Headquarters, activities of the Adjutant General's Section of this headquarters during the period 11-31 May were featured by:

a. An unusually large volume of awards and decorations.

b. The numerous reports on redeployment for the Corps Headquarters and its assigned units, as well as numerous reports calling for officers of special qualifications for reassignment.

c. Writing and compilation of the historical summary of the Corps.

d. Inspections of unit personnel records.

2. AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

a. A total of 373 decorations, awarded by the Corps Commander during the period, were processed:

(1) 304 Bronze Star Medals
(2) 49 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Air Medal
(3) 13 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Bronze Star Medal
(4) 6 Air Medals
(5) 4 Soldier's Medals
(6) 2 Silver Stars

b. Processed, approved and forwarded to higher headquarters during the period were:

(1) 2 Medals of Honor
(2) 2 Distinguished Service Medals
(3) 19 Legions of Merit
(4) 13 Distinguished Service Crosses
(5) 8 Unit Citations
(6) 4 Distinguished Flying Crosses

3. REDEPLOYMENT: In addition to the processing the Adjutant General's Section for the officers of this Headquarters, this section supervised this work for assigned units of VI Corps.

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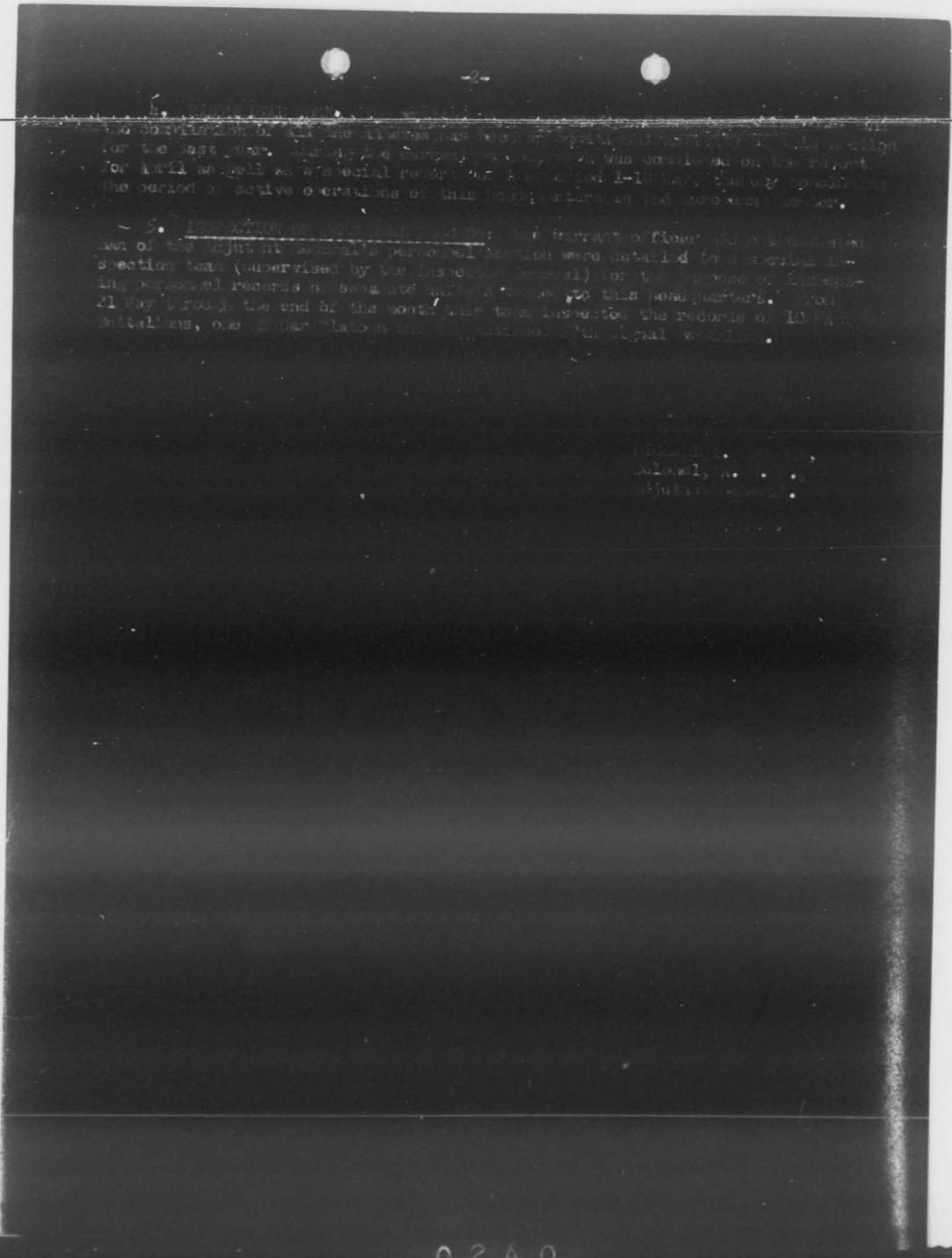

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Ordnance Officer
APO #46, U. S. Army

5 June 1945

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES DURING PERIOD 11 - 31 MAY 1945

Activities of the Corps Ordnance Office for the period 11 - 31 May 1945 is divided as follows:

1. Coordinating the Assembly of Captured, Over-run and Surrendered Enemy Material.

   a. Captured and over-run enemy materiel was evacuated to the following collecting points by the units occupying the Corps Area.

      (1) 44th Infantry Division and 103d Infantry Division evacuated materiel to the collecting point located at INNSBRUCK (D7658).

      (2) 35th AAA Brigade and 36th Infantry Division evacuated materiel to the collecting point at KAUFBEUREN (Y1624).

      (3) VI Corps Artillery, 10th Armored Division, and 45th Infantry Division evacuated materiel to the collecting points at WEILHEIM (Y6521) and AUBING (Y7358).

   b. The materiel involved in the formal surrender of the German 19th Army was handled by the 44th Infantry Division as follows:

      (1) After verifying the inventories prepared by the Germans all weapons, except those which the Germans were allowed to retain for guard purposes, were moved to a central assembly area in a Carbide factory in LANDEK (D1044).

      (2) All surrendered serviceable vehicles were used to move the German 19th Army from the vicinity of LANDEK to the [illegible] Area, where they came under the control of VI Corps Artillery. All unserviceable vehicles were moved to a collecting point near LANDEK by the 44th Infantry Division.

   c. Captured, over-run and surrendered enemy ammunition was handled by the units by first having the assigned Bomb Disposal Squad inspect the dump to make sure that it was safe to handle and then destroy all unserviceable and loose ammunition. The serviceable ammunition was evacuated by the units to the following collecting points:

      (1) The 10th Armored Division, 44th Infantry Division and 103d Infantry Division evacuated all serviceable ammunition to the Enemy Ammunition Collecting Point at INNSBRUCK (D7657).

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(2) The 35th AAA Brigade and the 36th Infantry Division evacuated all serviceable ammunition to the Enemy Ammunition Collecting Point at ZIEGELHEIM (S9609).

(3) The VI Corps Artillery and the 45th Infantry Division evacuated all serviceable ammunition to the Enemy Ammunition Collecting Point at HOHENBRUNN (Y9547).

2. Maintenance of U.S. Ordnance Equipment.

a. The Corps Ordnance Office continued its usual work of correlating the Ordnance service of Seventh Army with the needs of the assigned and attached troops.

b. Requested and secured movements of Ordnance supporting companies to best meet the needs of the serviced units.

c. Arranged for necessary collecting point service.

3. Inspection and Rehabilitation Program.

a. During the period 16 May to the end of the period a team from the Corps Ordnance Office consisting of one officer and three (3) enlisted men formed a part of VI Corps Inspector General's Inspection Group which engaged in the prescribed command inspection of attached and assigned non-divisional troops.

b. During the period the office "followed-up" inspections and rehabilitation programs for alerted units with Army Ordnance troops.

4. Ordnance Supply Activities.

a. Arranged with tactical troops for loan of trucks to Seventh Army Ordnance to pick up critical supplies from LUDWIGSHAFEN and haul them to Seventh Army Ordnance Depots.

b. Certain supplies such as paint were procured by local requisition and turned over to Army Ordnance for use of Corps troops.

c. Six (6) caliber .380 pistols were secured during the period for General Officers of the Corps.

d. Requests were made to Army Ordnance for new medium sedans for all Major Generals in the Corps.

e. Requests were made to Army for targets for small arms training.

5. Ammunition.

a. New Basic Load for artillery ammunition was covered in Administrative Instructions Number 2, Headquarters VI Corps, dated 8 May 1945. All

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excess ammunition was turned in to ASP #910, located at WITTLICH (9705).

b. Training Ammunition Allowances were covered in Annex Number 1 to Training Memorandum Number 12, Headquarters Seventh Army, dated 21 May 1945.

6. Personnel and Administrative Problems.

a. During the period the office issued, on direction of A. C. of Staff, G-4, VI Corps, registration certificates for captured and requisitioned civilian type vehicles used by Corps Headquarters.

b. Permission was received by the Ordnance Officer from the A. C. of Staff, G-1, VI Corps, to fill vacancies for Warrant Officer and certain enlisted men's ratings which, while assigned to the section by T/O, had been held by other sections.

c. Major STANLEY M. SMOLENSKY, Ord. Dept., Corps Ordnance Maintenance Officer, in U.S. on temporary duty, was relieved and replaced by Captain ROBERT STUBBINGS of the 10th Armored Division.

WALTER G. JENNINGS,
Colonel, Ordnance Department,
Ordnance Officer

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ENGINEER OP[illegible]IONS FROM MAY 11 to JUNE 1st, 194[illegible]

1. At the start of the period all engineer units initiated a program to get all equipment in excellent condition. By the end of the period all units had practically completed this program.

2. Corps Engineers worked on the major road net in Corps area. In most cases this consisted of repairing craters and patching breaks in the asphalt surface. To aid in this repair work, several mixing plants for pre-mix patching were set up. The CG, VI Corps directed that engineer soldiers be used only in [illegible] laborers would do the actual work. To this end teams of 20 PW's were organized and performed wall maintenance under engineer supervision.

3. Many bridges were repaired and several were built to open up a more elaborate road net. All tactical bridges except two have now been removed in Corps Area so that they may be shipped to an active theater. These two (2) tactical bridges which are still in place are being replaced by building the roadway up under the bridge so as not to interrupt traffic. Civilian contractors are doing the jobs under supervision of Corps engineers.

4. All engineer units have taken an active part in gathering data for surveys of "Industrial Facilities" and "Warehouses & Billets", as requested by higher headquarters.

5. Corps Engineers have supervised the reconstruction of the RR from INNSBRUCK to the [illegible] & to ITALY over the [illegible]. Many trains of DP's have already traveled these routes and work continues to open up better RR facilities.

6. The engineers have cooperated with G-5 in setting up local organizations for the normal civil government functions. In [illegible] local labor has been organized to aid in cleaning up these towns.

7. All units are conducting extensive training programs as directed by Corps, and they have also aided many units in setting up recreational facilities for the troops.

For the Corps Engineer

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of The Quartermaster
APO 746, U. S. Army

31 May 1945

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES FOR PERIOD 11 MAY - 31 MAY 1945

During this period units were stable and located in one general area. In view of this there was little necessity of changes in the supply and service locations. Some shifting of laundry, salvage and repair facilities was made in the Corps zone to provide service as close as possible to areas containing the bulk of the troops.

On 14 May the operation of Army Class I & III dumps reverted to Army control and the supply of these dumps to Army transportation, thus releasing unit vehicles which were sorely needed by the units. No problems were encountered during the period with Class I & III supply.

Class II & IV problems were mainly the distance from the Class II & IV dump and the shortage of high tariff sizes of trousers, wool, etc. During the latter part of the period, schedules were prepared and practically all units of the Corps have drawn the new jackets, field, wool.

An Inspection Team was formed to inspect all Corps troops assigned and attached. The Quartermaster Section furnished one officer to inspect on Quartermaster matters.

Purchasing and Contracting was relatively quiet during the period and consisted mainly of acquiring vehicles for the Headquarters and articles of furniture for the Corps Rest Center in NAPLY.

Personnel - During the period Major J. A. Bradish and P/Lt L. [illegible] Reitz departed for the United States and the section acquired Captain Shaw from the 45th Infantry Division and 1st Lieutenant Schuck from the 341st [illegible] Depot Company.

[illegible] G. [illegible],
Lieut. Colonel, [illegible],
Quartermaster.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Signal Officer
APO 46 U S ARMY

CLC/htj

AG 9.1 MJ

4 June 1945

Monthly Journal for May, 1945

1. The following Signal troops were assigned or attached to Hq VI Corps for the month.

a. 57th Signal Battalion.

b. 269th Signal Heavy Construction Co.

c. 3260th Signal Service Co.

2. The following Signal troops were in support of Hq VI Corps in May.

a. Det "A", 163d Signal Photo Co.

b. Plat C-1, 3151st SIAM Co.

c. Det "A", 209th Signal Pigeon Det.

d. Det 74th Signal Co (Special).

3. During the month of May VI Corps advanced from the GERMAN - AUSTRIAN border in the vicinity of FUSSEN to reach the ITALIAN border through the BRENNER PASS. VI Corps was composed initially of the 10 Armd Div, 44 Inf Div and 103 Inf Div. During the month the Corps gained the 2 DB (Fr), 36 Inf Div and 45 Inf Div. The fighting on the VI Corps front ended on 5 May with the surrender of the 19th German Army. The Corps CP moved two times during the month and set up at the following locations:

PARTENKIRCHEN	(D6382)
IGLS, AUSTRIA	(D7854)

4. Wire Communications. Wire communications were maintained by the use of spiral four, underground cable, open wire and field wire. Spiral four circuits with CFI carriers and CF2 repeaters were used to all divisions. As the corps acquired new divisions for occupation it was necessary to have only underground cable circuits to these units. It was then that the other divisions wire circuits were supplemented by underground cable with German commercial repeaters. Much of the underground cable in use by the VI Corps was repaired by German civilians and German soldier labor, under the supervision of 57th Signal Bn

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personnel. In the INNSBRUCK Exchange civilians are being used to assist in the maintenance of test and trouble equipment for trunk circuits. The use of civilian labor has proven to be very satisfactory. At the close of the period first rate commercial circuits were rehabilitated to all major units. This freed all spiral four making it available for recovery.

5. Radio Communication. Radio Communication was normal and was maintained without difficulty to all major units and II U.S. Corps in ITALY. Radio Link was operated to one division. Not enough radio link equipment was available to establish relays needed to operate radio link in such rugged terrain. Sufficient wire circuits were available so the corps communication did not suffer without radio link.

6. Communication was maintained throughout the period as shown by the following.

a.	Telephone	* 96.7%
b.	Teletype	* 92.3%
c.	Radio	* 91.3%

* The figures shown indicate the "percentage of total-time" each agency functioned with the major elements of VI Corps.

CARMON L. CLAY,
Col, Signal Corps,
Signal Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
A.P.O. 46, U. S. Army

2 June 1945.

SUBJECT: Summary of Activities, Judge Advocate Section, Headquarters VI Corps, 11 - 31 May 1945.

TO : Adjutant General, Headquarters VI Corps, A.P.O. 46, U. S. Army. (ATT: Historical Section.)

1. Work of the Judge Advocate Section, this headquarters, was carried on during the above period at VI Corps C.P., Igls, Austria. The number of general court-martial cases tried during the month, the results of such trials, and the number pending at the close of the period are shown on the attached report. The number of special and summary court-martial records received for examination and filing, during the month of May, is likewise shown.

2. The following tendencies or trends with respect to various activities of this section are noted:

a. Military Justice:

(1) General court-martial cases. A marked decrease in the number of military offenses was shown. This is especially true of such offenses as desertion, prolonged absence without leave, etc. There was, on the other hand, a marked increase in the number of cases of common-law, or civil crimes, especially those committed against the persons or property of local inhabitants. The trial of these latter cases is considerably more difficult than trial of military offenses due to language difficulties, transportation of civilian witnesses, and the question of the complainant's motive in cases of alleged rape. In addition to the cases tried and referred to trial, some eleven cases of alleged rape, committed by troops attached to this command, were forwarded to Headquarters Continental Advance Section, Headquarters Seventh Army, etc. for trial in the vicinity of the incident, pursuant to the policy enunciated in SOP 35, ETOUSA, 1944. This forwarding procedure will neither be necessary nor possible hereafter.

(2) Special and summary court-martial cases. A marked increase in the number of records received was noted. This was probably due to a cleaning up of pending administrative matters, after the termination of hostilities, and a greater use of court-martial procedure for minor offenses.

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b. Legal assistance to military personnel:

During the month of May, this section assisted in one proxy marriage and handled two divorce matters. This latter was a marked decrease. This decline is probably due in considerable part to the possibility of early return of personnel to the United States, where such matters can be handled much more satisfactorily.

3. The end of hostilities does not involve any material reduction in the work of this section. In fact, during an extended occupation, the number of cases will probably increase. The situation as to enlisted personnel in the section remains very uncertain.

ROBERT L. LANGFIELD,
Colonel, J. A. G. D.,
Staff Judge Advocate.

Incl.
Monthly report SJA

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Surgeon

5 June 1945

MEMO TO: AG, VI Corps.

Activities of the Corps Surgeon's Office for the month of May 1945 were as follows:

1. Typhus. A survey was made of the entire VI Corps area to determine location and number of typhus patients. A total of 2,648 cases were reported. Inspection visits were made to DACHAU and other areas reporting typhus to ensure enforcement of quarantine, DDT dusting, and vaccination of contacts. At the close of the period the incidence of new cases had dropped sharply (accurate statistics not available to this office) which is attributed to the outset of warm weather and effective isolation of infected persons.

2. Displaced Persons. This office acted in a medical advisory capacity for displaced persons camps throughout the area to prevent spread of contagious. American medical officers conducted physical inspections of persons to be transported to other countries. These were chiefly Italians returning home through the BRENNER PASS. These persons were also dusted with DDT prior to departure.

3. Prisoners of War. Upon instigation by the Corps Surgeon, all hospitalized German POW'S who required no further hospitalization were discharged to German military units. This measure greatly facilitated the subsequent consolidation of German hospitals by Seventh Army troops.

4. General. Inspection visits were made to divisions of the Corps and to Corps troops concerning sanitation and preventive medicine. Especial emphasis was placed upon establishment of adequate and accessible prophylactic stations.

The health of the command continued to be excellent. Out of the ordinary were the numerous cases of recurrent malaria among troops who had participated in the SICILIAN and ITALIAN campaigns. The rate of recurrence appeared to be closely correllated to fatigue and exposure of the troops. Suppressive atabrine therapy was instituted in units showing high incidence of malaria.

Mean admission rates per 1,000 per month for special communicable diseases were as follows:

	April	May
Intestinal Disease	.06	.04
Respiratory Disease	.37	.26
Venereal Disease	.02	.08
Infectious Hepatitis	.20	.05

OLIVER W. GROVER
Colonel, Medical Corps
Surgeon, VI Corps

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Finance Officer
A.P.O. 46, U. S. Army

9 June 1945

SUBJECT: Summary of Activities.

TO : AG (Historical Section), Hq. VI Corps.

1. This section performed the usual functions of a Finance Office for the period of May 11 - 31, 1945.

2. There was handled thru this office during the month approximately two and one-half million dollars of captured currency consisting of Reichsmarks, Italian Lira, Rumanian Lei and Russian Rubles. The Reichsmarks and Italian Lira were turned over to the Property Control Officer of the Military Government and placed in their blocked account at the Reichsbank in Innsbruck, Austria, to be used to defray occupation costs. The Rumanian Lei and Russian Rubles were forwarded to Military Government, 7th Army to salvage any possible value they might have. At the present time there is no established rate of monetary value in this currency. There was located in the Garmish area, by the C.I.C., a cache of gold bullion alledgedly valued at a million and one-half dollars and they were directed to turn this to the custody of the Property Control Officer of the Military Government pending determination of the ownership of it. This was accomplished. This makes a total of approximately four million dollars recovered by the VI Corps as a result of its operations in Austria exclusive of any amounts recovered by Divisions. This office had no activity in demobilization of the German Army. All payments to discharged personnel was a function of 7th Army and was processed by them.

3. This Finance Section was reorganized during the month and all disbursing was terminated by VI Corps Finance Section. The 11th Finance Disbursing Section assumed all disbursing on May 20th and our account was officially closed on May 27th.

4. At the present time VI Corps Finance Department is performing all fiscal activities in Corps and coordinating the payment of all troops within the Corps Area to assure prompt payment.

H. L. LEIGHTON,
Colonel, F. D.,
Finance Officer.

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[illegible] Narrative of Activities for Period [illegible]

[illegible] Historical Section [illegible].

[illegible] Due to the ending of hostilities [illegible] reduced. However, during the period liaison [illegible] extent that the locator files were kept, as far as possible, [illegible] attached to VI Corps and Seventh Army, and [illegible] for all Division Liaison Officers. [illegible] were maintained showing principal roads and administrative boundaries of all units of VI Corps. In the [illegible] it has been the practice to send all personnel desiring directions to the Liaison Section for this information; this includes men returning from hospitals and rest camps, etc. This practice has been continued with an average of ten (10) people per day being oriented as to the location of some unit.

[illegible]. This office has also conducted approximately ten (10) intelligence investigations during the period. This included investigation of captured enemy materiel and overrun enemy dumps and manufacturing establishments. Appropriate reports were made to interested agencies in each case.

[illegible]. All Chemical Warfare materiel turned in by the German [illegible] was, under the direction of the Chemical Officer 44th Infantry Division, collected in one dump at [illegible].

4. A close contact was maintained with all Chemical Warfare units attached to VI Corps. This included supervision of training and assistance in any problems that confronted them, such as road clearance, real estate procurement, personnel problems, etc. Approximately 15-[illegible] visits were made to Chemical units of this Corps during the period.

5. During the period S/Sgt. Clough was lost to the section due to discharge under the point system. Captain Stone, on [illegible] from the 83d Chemical Mortar Battalion with this office, returned to his organization and was replaced by 1st Lt. Hauser. Corporal Bennett was transferred to the section to replace S/Sgt. Clough.

WILLIAM [illegible], JR.,
Lt. Col., CWS,
Chemical Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Armored Officer

5 June 1945

SUBJECT: Summary of Activities for Period 11-31 May 1945.

TO : Historical Section AG, Hq VI Corps, APO 46, U. S. Army

The formation of an Armored Section, Headquarters VI Corps was announced by the Corps Commander on 14 May 1945. Prior to this time 1st Armored Group had maintained an office at Corps Headquarters and performed the functions of an Armored Section.

Since the formation of the section special attention has been devoted to visiting the various armored units in the Corps. The purpose of such visits has been to establish and maintain close contact with the units, to offer advice and assistance in the solution of their problems, to check training and to keep them informed on matters of particular concern to them.

The commanders of the armored units in the Corps have been encouraged to make maximum use of the Armored Section in the solution of their problems and in addition to the staff visits made to the units, unit representatives have made frequent visits to this office for assistance.

An accurate picture of the activities of each unit and the status of its personnel and equipment is obtained from staff visits and from information copies of unit S-1, S-3, and S-4 reports. The S-3 report includes a daily status of armored materiel and once a week the section reports to Army on the armored materiel status of each unit.

Copies of weekly training schedules are received from all units and are examined to insure that they are in accordance with current training directives. Suggestions have been made to the units on training, and pertinent portions of training directives published by VI Corps and Seventh Army have been quoted and emphasized. Reports from various sources of particular interest to armored units have been reproduced and forwarded to units where deemed beneficial.

The Armored Section is working closely with Corps Armored units and with Seventh Army Armored Section on the development of new armored equipment and tactics. Special efforts have been made to obtain advance information on plans, trends, and developments

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concerning armor, to disseminate such information to the units and to obtain their reactions and recommendations.

Along with its normal functions the section has been involved during this period in becoming organized, and in selecting and training its T/O personnel.

Throughout the period covered by this summary the following armored units were in VI Corps: 10th Armored Division, 1st Armored Group, 115 Cavalry Group, 107 Calvary Reconnaissance Squadron (Mech nized), 191, 753, 772, and 781 Tank Battalions, 609, 614, 636, 645, 776, and 894 Tank Destroyer Battalions.

THEODORE G. BIL[illegible], JR.
Lieutenant Colonel, FA
Armored Officer

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
Office of the Provost Marshal
A. P. O. 46, U. S. Army

4 June, 1945

SUBJECT: Summary of Activities for period 11 May, 1945 to 31 May, 1945.

TO : Historical Section (Adj. Gen.) VI Corps Headquarters, A. P. O. 46.

1. In compliance with Memorandum, VI Corps Headquarters, 1 June 1945 the following summary of the activities of this office for the period 11 May 1945 to 31 May 1945 is herewith submitted:

A. In addition to the routine traffic circulation problems and general police functions which are ever present, many additional affairs presented themselves with the cessation of hostilities in this sector to this office, the various Divisional Provost Marshal's offices in Corps area and the Military Police units under this office's jurisdiction.

B. A novel experience was that of assisting in the movement of two large German convoys on the twentieth of May the 19th German Army moved from the area near Landeck to an assembly area near Munich. Two days movement was by German organic transportation and the third day by American vehicles, German drivers and Military Police were used on the movement and ours was a problem of supervising the move, instructing the Germans of our signals and convoy discipline and assisting the German M. P.'s on intersections where there would be heavy conflicting American traffic. The movement was completed very successfully without report of traffic jams or lost time on the road. At the last of the month, the German Second Panzer Division moved from the area east of Bad Tolz to assembly area near Wolfsratshausen. Tenth Armored Division Military Police helped the German guides in this movement and the 206th Military Police Company was dispatched to supervise the movement and keep this office advised of any difficulties. All check reports on the movement were very favorable.

C. Numerous holiday and decoration ceremonies were in order as a result of the peace. Police escorts were continually being dispatched to accompany dignitaries and high ranking officers who were attending these functions. Color guards and traffic and security details were duties assigned to the Military Police for these affairs.

D. Prior to the freezing of German Prisoners of War in division cages, the maintaining of proper levels in the various enclosures was a considerable problem. Communications were not in order to the enclosures and daily airplane trips were necessary for the two Police Officers in this office to keep abreast of the situation with regard to evacuation of the P. W.'s.

E. The maintenance of proper sanitary conditions in the three German hospitals in Igls was a function of this office as well as the evacuation of the prisoners to division [illegible] when the patients were ready for discharge from the hospital. The movement of patients from the hospital at

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4 June, 1945 (Cont'd)

Steinach [illegible] was supervised by [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

2. The apprehension, investigation, [illegible] transportation of numerous rape, robbery and murders suspects, both military and civilian, consumed much of the time and attention of this office. The [illegible] consequent [illegible] seems to have given more time and opportunity for [illegible] and carousing [illegible]. As a result criminal activity showed a [illegible] rise. For example, fifty alleged rape cases were reported within a few days in the 36th Division sector apparently attributable to the French in the town of Ottlin. [illegible] Marshal was notified and [illegible] made with [illegible] I. D. [illegible] clowers to investigate the accusations.

[illegible] Several German war criminals were discovered in the area at the close of the war. War Production Administrators, scientists and inventors, as well as specialists in German Aircraft manufacture were some of the types of criminal that [illegible] was anxious to interrogate. It was the function of this office to have the [illegible] picked up, delivered to our office and held for [illegible]. Quite often the men would be sent on the 7th Army Interrogation for further questioning.

2. Most other functions of this office for the period were of a general Provost Marshal and police nature.

M. T. Villanti
M. T. VILLANTI,
Major, C. M. P.
Provost Marshal, VI Corps

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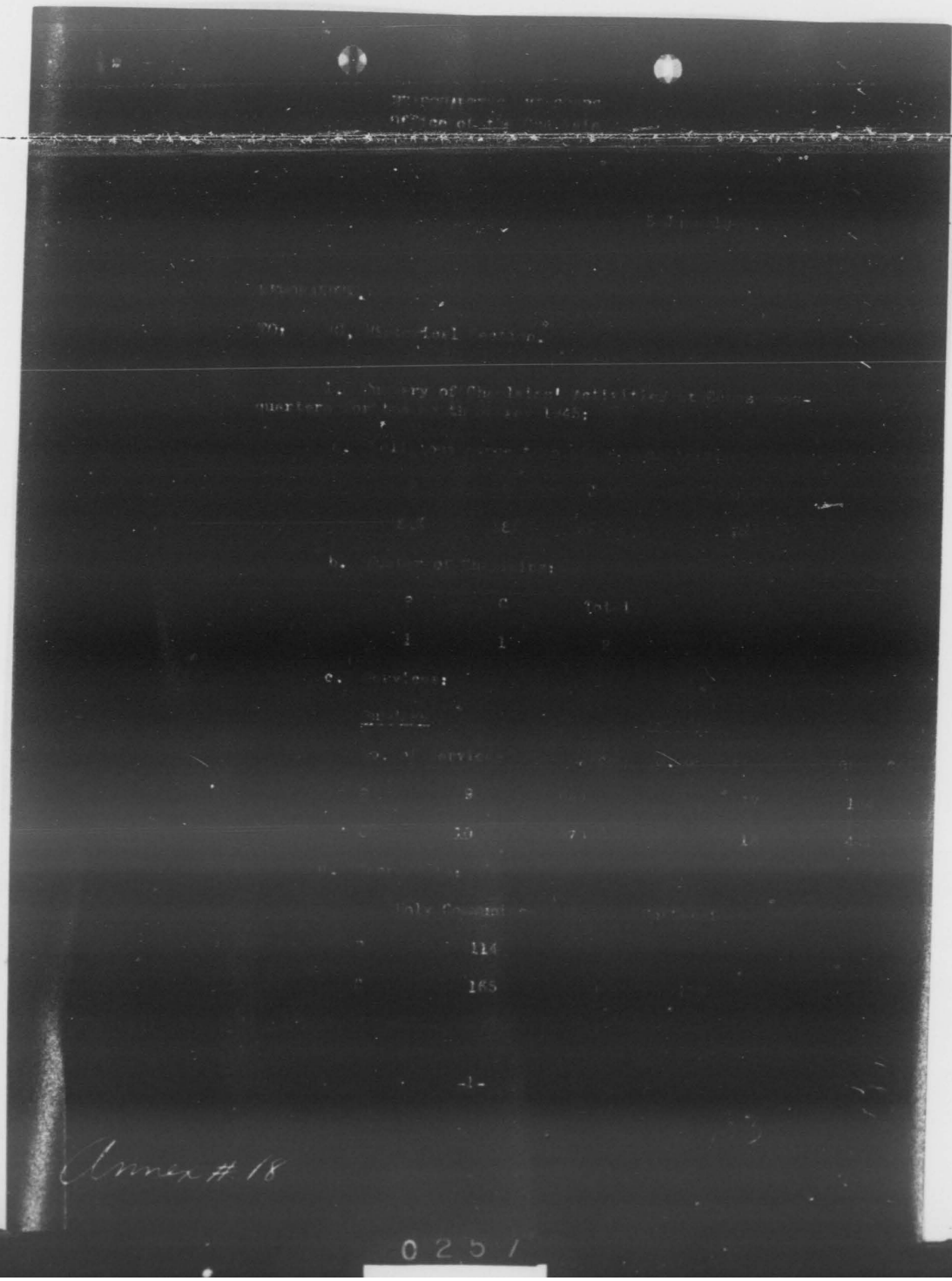

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Annex #18

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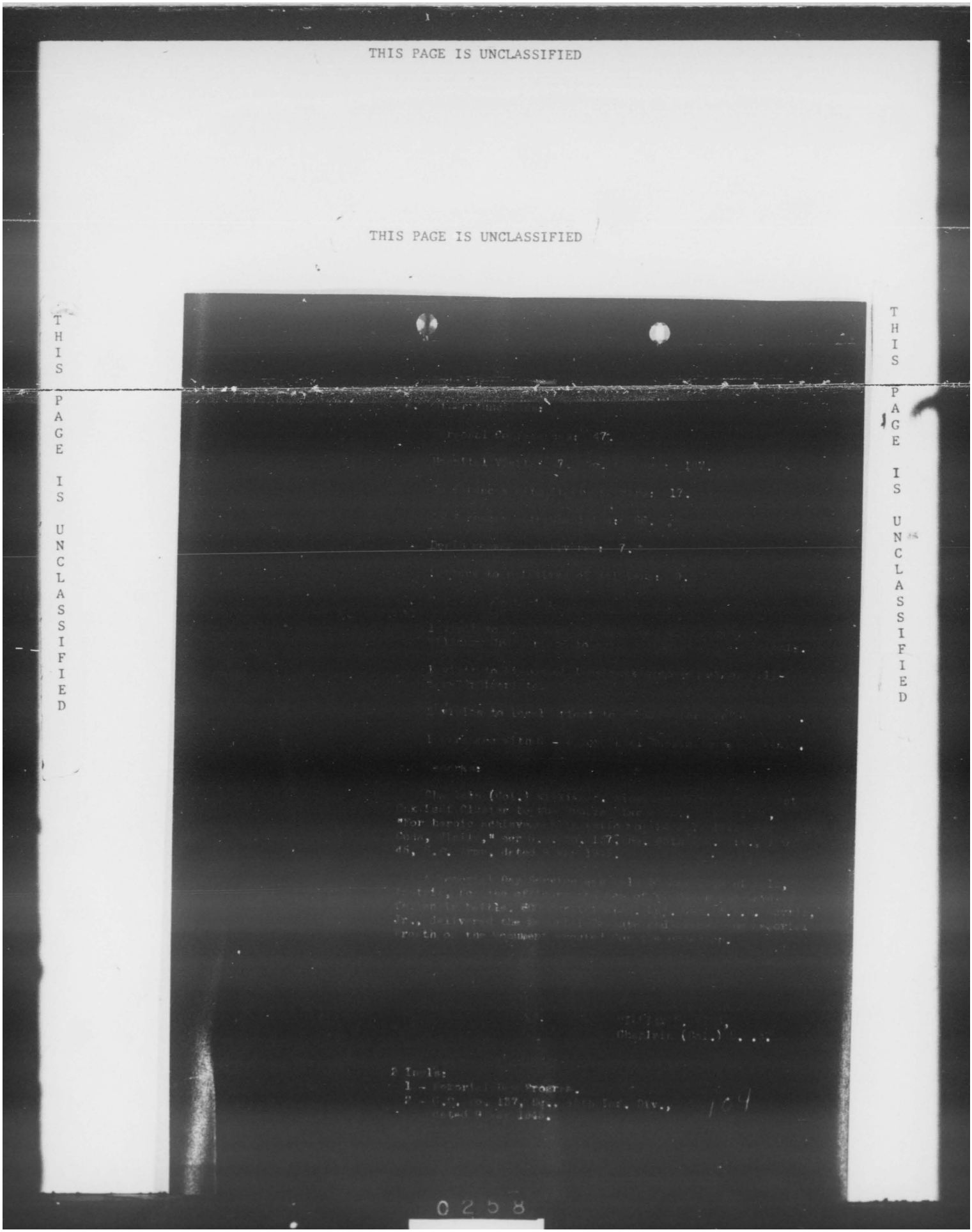

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May 30, 1945 --- IN MEMORIAM --- Igls, Austria

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS

Music by the Band	
Call to Attention	
Arrival of the Commanding General and Party	
Invocation -	Chaplain William E. King, (Prot.)
Scripture Reading -	Capt. Milton Cahn, M.C. (Jewish)
Prayer -	Chaplain Jordan E. Brown, (Cath.)
America -	Troops singing, led by the Band.
Memorial Tribute -	Commanding General
Placing of the Memorial Wreath -	Commanding General
Minute of Silence	
National Anthem	
Volleys	
Taps and Echoes	
Departure of the Commanding General and Party	

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FORTY-FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 45 [illegible]

GENERAL ORDERS 9 May 1945

NUMBER 157

EXTRACT

* * * *

Section 1

Award of the First Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal.

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, as amended, the First Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following officer and enlisted man:

[illegible] 0268277, Chaplain's Corps, Chaplain (Colonel, then Lieutenant Colonel), Headquarters VI Corps (then Headquarters 45th Infantry Division), for heroic achievement in action on 24 July 1945 near Cerda, Sicily. Leading an attack on an enemy-held road junction, a battalion came under heavy small arms, mortar and tank fire and suffered a number of casualties. Moving about among the forward elements of the battalion to provide help wherever it was needed, Chaplain King found a soldier lying seriously wounded in an exposed area. In spite of the intense fire falling in the sector Chaplain King's courage and devotion to duty undoubtedly saved the soldier's life and reflect credit upon [illegible] and his organization. Entered the military service from Lincoln, Illinois.

By command of [illegible]:

OFFICIAL:

[illegible]
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

HENRY P. ROACH
Lt Col, AGD
Adjutant General.

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5 June 1945

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[redacted] Corps of the Special Services Division

MEMORANDUM TO: [redacted] (Historical Section)

Activities for period 11 May to 31 May 194[redacted]

1. Following the cessation of hostilities the Corps area located in [redacted], at this time the demand for entertainment far exceeded the supply. [redacted] theatre in Derry [redacted] where live entertainment of some nature was presented nightly for [redacted] American [redacted] were [redacted] one larger units in Corps with the understanding that the [redacted] use be made of them for troops in the [redacted] Later in the month an additional [redacted] by Seventh Army which was [redacted] these, coupled with two movie [redacted] supplement division projectors, [redacted] from this [redacted] within the larger units in [redacted] were seriously hampered by lack of equipment but [redacted] improvisation was the keynote until such time as they could issue equipment in bulk. In preparation for the expanding athletic program, an athletic technician was assigned to this section to supervise the [redacted] softball league.

2. Late in the month the [redacted] attached to [redacted] Corps since December 1944, was [redacted] been alerted for early movement from the theatre, none this curtailed the amount of entertainment [redacted] troops. As the volume of our business increased, [redacted] movie film, rest center quotas (France and Paris), and [redacted] welfare service, became such that only the larger units could be handled properly while the smaller units were required to improvise or do without. The facilities of the [redacted] Corps rest center were expanded to accommodate 1500-1700 enlisted men; a [redacted] was taken over and quotas totaling 180 enlisted men were [redacted] divisions and Corps troops; civilian [redacted] shows booked into town theatres as well as unit theatres; a small mountain rest camp at [redacted] was opened; establishment of enlisted men [redacted] encouraged; Stars and Stripes and Yank [redacted] daily to divisions and Corps units. This section continued supervision over the Corps newspaper as well as the Red Cross Clubmobile unit during the period when problems of supply and personnel were particularly pressing.

3. In summation, the period was marked by [redacted] this section which could only be partially met because of the scarcity supplies and the non-fraternization policy. Morale was singularly high in spite of the anxiety exhibited by troops during the redeployment period.

Annex #19

[redacted]
Captain, [redacted]

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

30 May 1945

SECTION I ASSIGNED OFFICERS AND WARRANT OFFICERS

COMMANDING GENERAL

Major General W. H. H. Morris Jr, 03102, U. S. A.
1st Lt Dean M. Chapman, 0537511, FA (ADC)

CHIEF OF STAFF

Brigadier General Charles D. Palmer, 015519, GSC

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

Col Paul A. Chalmers, 018239, GSC

LIAISON OFFICERS

Capt Leo M. Armstrong, 0405177, Inf (Army)
Capt Thomas E. Stagg Jr, 0446480, Inf (G-1)
1st Lt Paul W. Stephani, 01165960, FA (C/S)
1st Lt Thomas O. Rose, 01284402, Inf (SSO)
1st Lt William D. Addison, 01177708, FA (SSO)
1st Lt John C. Kelley, 01310261, Inf (G-4)
2d Lt James R. Irvin, 01059820, CAC (Beachhead News)

G-1 SECTION

Col Richard Steinbach, 018560, GSC
Lt Col John W. Wibel, 0339093, GSC
Maj Robert G. Perriello, 0389394, GSC
Capt William A. Garden, 01296511, Inf

G-2 SECTION

Col Joseph L. Langevin, 012640, GSC
Lt Col Don W. Dixon, 0343066, GSC
Maj Edward L. Dobbins, 0452060, Inf
Capt Joseph Haines III, 01284699, Inf
Capt Richard G. Young, 0407475, Inf

G-3 SECTION

Col Albert O. Connor, 020699, GSC
Lt Col Michael S. Davison, 022051, GSC
Lt Col John L. Cooper, 0351994, Cav
Maj William R. Rose, 0352042, CAC (Air-Ground Ln O)
Maj John Schadler Jr, 0383957, QMC
Capt James J. Harrington Jr, 0461327, Inf.
Capt Kenneth B. Floto, 01305228, Inf
1st Lt Howell C. Henderson, 01287349, Inf
1st Lt Robert E. Schuelke, 0545599, Inf

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G-4 SECTION

Col Burton E. Mikes, 034762, GSC
Maj Robert E. Clark, 0910354, GSC
Maj William H. Ferguson, 01165013, FA
Capt Harold F. Pacha, 01310486, Inf
1st Lt Paul A. Baltes, 01112349, CE

G-5 SECTION

Maj Enrico Dell'Osso, 0237798, GSC
Capt Richard Hall, 01797639, GSC

TRAFFIC CONTROL SECTION

Maj Ralph L. Harper, 0303227, Inf
Capt Albert R. Tryon, 01100368, CE

ADJUTANT GENERAL SECTION

Col Michael L. Connors, 0309882, AGD
Maj Harry S. Alcorn, 01000079, AGD
Maj Courtney L. Vallentine, 01000884, AGD
Capt William F. Rickett, 02055429, AGD
1st Lt Edward G. May, 01043002, CE
WOJG George T. Smith Jr, W-2108260

ARMORED SECTION

Lt Col Theodore G. Bilbo, 019477, FA
Maj William A. Crabill, 0303078, Inf
1st Lt Curtis M. O'Sullivan, 01168016, FA

CHAPLAIN SECTION

Col William E. King, 0268277, Ch Corps
Lt Col Jordan E. Brown, 0402849, Ch Corps

CHEMICAL SECTION

Lt Col William C. Hammond Jr, 0270407, CWS
Maj Floyd B. Mitman Jr, 025330 CWS (TD Rest Center)

ENGINEER SECTION

Col William N. Thomas Jr, 07648, CE
Lt Col Robert H. Darling, 0316638, CE
Capt Joseph M. Devine, 0421809, CE
Capt Edgar D. Lee, 0456581, CE
2d Lt Frank C. Little, 02009673, CE

FINANCE SECTION

Col Howard L. Leighton, 0124567, FD

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R E S T R I C T E D

INSPECTOR GENERAL SECTION

Col Nyal L. Adams, 07471, IGD
Lt Col James M. Pennycuick, 0307472, IGD

JUDGE ADVOCATE SECTION

Col Robert L. Lancefield, 018037, JAGD
Maj Jack M. Cotton, 0293310, JAGD

MEDICAL SECTION

Col Oliver W. Greer, 0200543, MC
Lt Col Walker Stamps, 0357847, MC
Maj James L. Rounds, 0490026, MAC
WOJG Donald L. Sutliff, W-2106239

ORDNANCE SECTION

Col Walter G. Jennings, 0174217, Ord Dept
Lt Col John P. Merrill, 0181405, Ord Dept
Maj Benjamin F. Swank Jr, 0403163, Ord Dept
Capt Henry J. Egal, 01549932, Ord Dept
CWO Edward C. Kelly, W-2114233

PROVOST MARSHAL SECTION

Maj Mario T. Villanti, 0427369, CMP
Capt Sam F. Doering, 0409112, CMP
1st Lt William H. Scott, 01285125, CMP
1st Lt Philip W. Marsh, 01796124, CMP

QUARTERMASTER SECTION

Lt Col James G. Hattox, 0276850, QMC
1st Lt Herbert R. Southworth, 01579157, QMC

SIGNAL SECTION

Col Carmon L. Clay, 0[illegible]7907, Sig C
Maj Wilbur D. Vincent, 0378299, Sig C
Capt Willard W. Jensen, 0454648, Sig C
Capt Luther D. Bridgman, 01635621, Sig C

SPECIAL SERVICE SECTION

Capt Daniel T. Fogarty, 01822550, FA

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT

Lt Col Leonard C. Cooke, 0316938, CAC

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HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Capt Paul B. McGuire, 01285788, Inf
Capt Robert H. Ferrell, 01697057, MC
Capt Isidore Memerowsky, 01690212, DC
1st Lt Guy B. Norbury, 01031352, Cav

COMPOSITE SERVICE COMPANY

1st Lt Benjamin J. Pulley Jr, 01299470, Inf
1st Lt. Lawson A. Cheatham, 01315786, Inf

MILITARY POLICE PLATOON

1st Lt Christopher Burke, 01306926, CMP
2d Lt Dee L. Hedrick, 02009851, CMP

SECTION II ATTACHED FOR CURRENT OPERATIONS

G-2 SECTION

Capt Lauren C. Kingman Jr, 0863398, AC
Capt Charles B. Metcalfe, 0913249, AC
Capt Arthur J. Petersen, 01103354, AC (Photo Int)
Capt Alfred G. Pundt, 01052530, CAC

ENGINEER SECTION

Capt Iwen A. Heinor, 01100297, CE

LIAISON SECTION

2d Lt Pierre-Etienne de Viel Castel (French)

HEADQUARTERS OFFICER

Col Christian Hildebrand, 012450, Inf

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Mr Don W. Allen (Asst Field Director)

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

CHANGES IN OFFICER PERSONNEL - 11-31 MAY 1945

I - ASSIGNMENTS; ATTACHMENTS

Date	Officer	Remarks
16	Maj William A. Crabill, Inf	Atchd fr 11th Armd Div
17	Maj William A. Crabill, Inf	Asgd fr 11th Armd Div
20	Capt Thomas E. Stagg., Jr., Inf 1st Lt William D. Addison, FA 2d Lt James R. Irwin, Inf	Asgd & Jd fr 103d Inf Div Asgd & Jd fr Hq VI Corps Arty Asgd & Jd fr 100th Inf Div
21	1st Lt Thomas C. Rose, Inf	Atchd fr 103d Inf Div
22	1st Lt Thomas C. Rose, Inf	Asgd fr 103d Inf Div
23	Maj Gen W.H.H. Morris, Jr, USA	Asgd & Jd fr 10th Armd Div - Assumed Command of VI Corps
24	1st Lt Dean M. Chapman, FA(ADC)	Asgd & Jd fr 10th Armd Div
26	1st Lt John C. Kelly, Inf	Asgd fr 103d Inf Div
29	1st Lt Robert L. Schuelke, Inf	Asgd fr 103d Inf Div
30	Col Richard Steinbach, GSC	Asgd & Jd fr 10th Armd Div - Announced as ACofS, G-1 on 27 May
31	Capt Robert Stubbings, Ord Dept	Atchd fr 13[illegible] Ord Bn

II - RELIEF FROM ASSIGNMENT; DETACHMENTS

12	2d Lt Edward C. Lyon, AC	Reld fr atchmt - Ret to 350th Fighter Group
14	1st Lt Robert [illegible] Head, Cav	Reld fr asgmt - Asgd 10th Armd Div
19	Maj James C. Grimes, FA	Reld fr asgmt - Asgd Reception Station No. 1, Camp Chaffee, Ark.
20	Maj John [illegible] Bradish, Inf CWO Francis [illegible] Mugavin	Reld fr asgmt - Asgd Reception Station No. 1, Fort Devens, Mass. Reld fr asgmt - Asgd Reception Station No. [illegible]
21	Capt Frederick [illegible] Dietz, FD	Reld fr [illegible]
23	Capt Charles Marshall, Inf	Reld fr atchmt - Ret to [illegible]

III - PROMOTIONS

20	Maj John [illegible] Cooper, Cav	From to [illegible]

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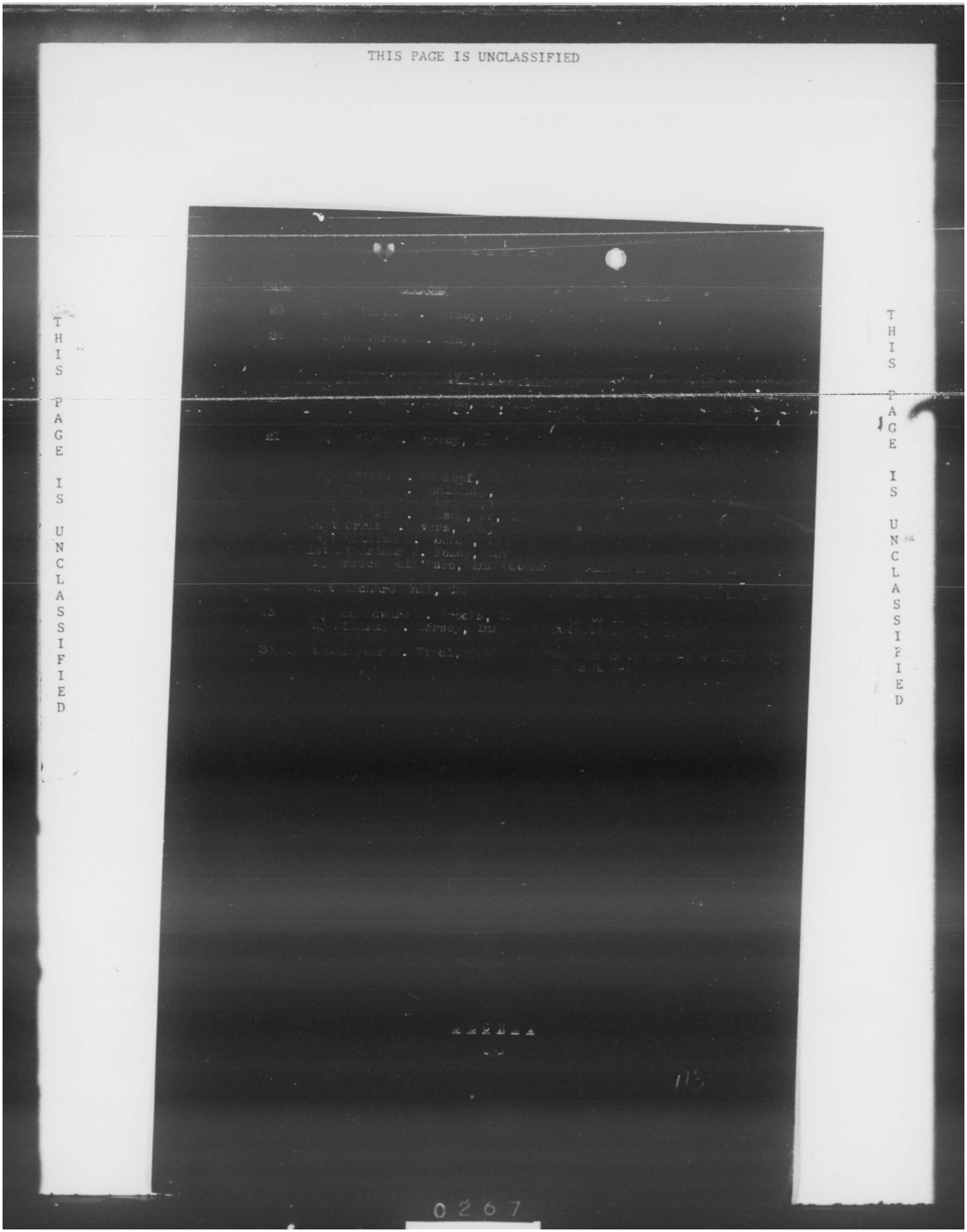

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S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

11-31 MAY 1945

REPORT OF STRENGTH, BATTLE CASUALTIES, DECORATIONS AND AWARDS

I. **STRENGTH:**

Hq VI Corps:

		Assigned	Attached	Total	Net Change
Officers	11 May 45 -	80	9	89	
	31 May 45 -	79	8	87	-2
Warrant O's	11 May 45 -	4	0	4	
	31 May 45 -	3	0	3	-1

Hq Co VI Corps:

Officers	11 May 45 -	6	0	6	
	31 May 45 -	5	0	5	-1
EM	11 May 45 -	252	27	279	
	31 May 45 -	198	42	240	-39

Comp Serv Co VI Corps:

Officers	11 May 45 -	2	0	2	
	31 May 45 -	2	0	2	0
EM	11 May 45 -	57	0	57	
	31 May 45 -	92	0	92	+35

MP Plat VI Corps:

Officers	11 May 45 -	2	0	2	
	31 May 45 -	2	0	2	0
EM	11 May 45 -	75	0	75	
	31 May 45 -	67	0	67	-8

II. **BATTLE CASUALTIES:**

NONE - No Combat Operations

III. **DECORATIONS AND AWARDS:**

The following awards were presented [illegible] Maj Gen Edward [illegible] Brooks, on [illegible] VI Corps General Orders Nos. 35, 36, [illegible]

Hq VI Corps: [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

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4 Incls.
#1-VI Corps G.O. No. 38, 17 May 45
#2-VI Corps G.O. No. 36, 13 May 45
#3-VI Corps G.O. No. 39, 2[illegible] May 45
#4-VI Corps G.O. No. 40, 22 May 45

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS,
APO #46, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 35)

17 May 1945

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....I
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....II
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL.....III
AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL AND THE FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER THERETO.....IV
AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL.....V
AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 29.....VI

I AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals:

SECOND OAK LEAF CLUSTER

ALBERT O. CONNOR, 020699, Colonel, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 20 December 1944 to 26 January 1945 in France and Germany. Entered United States Military Academy from Montana.

1st OLC — MICHAEL S. DAVISON, 022051, Lieutenant Colonel, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 23 February to 18 April 1945 in France and Germany. Entered United States Military Academy from District of Columbia.

FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER

JOSEPH L. LANGEVIN, 012640, Colonel, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 20 December 1944 to 26 January 1945 in France. Entered United States Military Academy from Massachusetts.

PAUL A. CHALMERS, 016239, Colonel, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 5 December 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

II AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded each of the following named individuals:

NYAL L. ADAMS, 07473, Colonel, Inspector General's Department, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 25 October 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Greeley, Colorado.

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[illegible] for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 25 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from [illegible].

[illegible], 0124267, Colonel, Finance Department, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 25 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from [illegible].

[illegible], [illegible], Lieutenant Colonel, [illegible] Artillery Corps, Headquarters [illegible] Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 November 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from [illegible], Connecticut.

[illegible], [illegible], Lieutenant Colonel, Chemical Warfare Service, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 25 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Lumberton, North Carolina.

[illegible], [illegible], Major, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 25 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from [illegible], Connecticut.

PAUL [illegible], 01282738, Captain, Infantry, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 November 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from New York, New York.

PAUL [illegible], 33109837, Staff Sergeant, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for heroic achievement in action on 1 January 1945 in France. Entered military service from Flint, Michigan.

[illegible], 33034574, Staff Sergeant, 431st Medical Collecting Company, for meritorious service in action from 16 November to 6 December 1944 in France. Entered military service from Distant, Pennsylvania.

III AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

SIXTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER

WILLIAM R. SCHRUMP, 01173067, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, Headquarters 35th Field Artillery Group, from 26 March to 16 April 1945 in Germany. Entered military service from Utica, New York.

SECOND AND THIRD OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

[illegible] D. WINDECKER, 01683304, First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, Headquarters 35th Field Artillery Group, from 1 June 1944 to 16 April 1945 in Italy, France and Germany. Entered military service from Ackley, Iowa.

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IV AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL AND THE FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER THERETO.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Air Medal and the First Oak Leaf Cluster thereto are awarded to the following named individual for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

DONALD J. WATSON, [illegible], First Lieutenant, Field Artillery, [illegible] Field Artillery Battalion, from [illegible] February to 18 April 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Schenectady, New York.

V AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR [illegible], the Air Medal is awarded to the following named individual for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights:

STUART T. ASHTON, [illegible], Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery, Headquarters [illegible] Field Artillery Group, from 11 March to 18 April 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from [illegible], Georgia.

VI AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER [illegible].

So much of paragraph 1, Section I, General Orders Number [illegible], this headquarters, [illegible] May 1945, as reads "[illegible]" and "[illegible] (47) enlisted men" is amended to read "[illegible] (45) enlisted men." (Authority Letter Headquarters [illegible], [illegible] AG 322 Op, subject: "Activation of [illegible]").

BY COMMAND OF [illegible]:

[illegible]
[illegible]

OFFICIAL:

[illegible]
[illegible]

DISTRIBUTION:

[illegible]

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

18 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 36)

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR.....I
AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....II

I AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Silver Star is awarded to the following named individual:

JOHN J. BONAMO, 32087372, Sergeant, 117th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (Mechanized), for gallantry in action on 19 March 1945 in Germany. After two men had been seriously wounded by artillery fire which was falling in heavy concentrations, Sergeant BONAMO ran into the street, carried one man to the shelter of a house, and unable to get help, returned alone to drag the other more seriously wounded man to the house. He then went back through the shelled area and found a vehicle with which to evacuate the men but the vehicle was put out of action by the artillery fire while he was attempting to reach it again with one of the wounded men. He then found another vehicle immediately, and evacuated the men. Sergeant BONAMO'S courageous, decisive action reflects great credit upon himself and the military service. Entered military service from Staten Island, New York.

II AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

WALTER T. WILSON, 01010197, Captain, (Infantry) Aide de Camp, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 July 1944 to 8 May 1945 in Prance, Belgium, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Birmingham, Alabama.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BROOKS:

CHARLES D. PALMER,
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

C. L. VALENTINE,
Major, Adjutant General's Department,
Assistant Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)
: 22 May 1945
NUMBER 39)

AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....I
AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.....II

I AWARD OF THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named individual:

JOHN W. WIBEL, 0339093, Lieutenant Colonel, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Arlington, Massachusetts.

II AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded to each of the following named individuals:

ENRICO DELL'OSSO, 0257798, Major, General Staff Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 18 January 1945 and 18 April to 8 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Oakland, California.

JOHN SCHADLER JR, 0383957, Major, Quartermaster Corps, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 June 1944 to 6 May 1945 in Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Elizabeth, New Jersey.

STANLEY M. SMOLENSKY, 025333, Major, Ordnance Department, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 25 October 1944 to 12 February 1945 in France. Entered military service from Boston, Massachusetts.

JOSEPH [illegible] DEVINE, 0421809, Captain, Corps of Engineers, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Somerville, Massachusetts.

FREDERICK H. DIETZ, 01280038, Captain, Finance Department, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Hackettstown, New Jersey.

SAM P. DOERING, 0409112, Captain, Corps of Military Police, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 August 1944 to 8 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Parkston, South Dakota.

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GARETH G. WILSON, 01795833, Captain, Corps of Military Police, 206th Military Police Company, for meritorious service in action from 3 December 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Monte Vista, Colorado.

PETER S. CZACHOR, 0447457, First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, 57th Signal Battalion, for meritorious service in action from 9 September 1943 to 6 May 1945 in Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Rutland, Vermont.

WILLIAM J. STOPPLE, 0467394, First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, 57th Signal Battalion, for meritorious service in action from 9 September 1943 to 6 May 1945 in Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Dallas, Texas.

FRANCIS M. MUGAVIN, W-2109915, Chief Warrant Officer, Headquarters VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 August 1943 to 6 May 1945 in North Africa, Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from New York, New York.

FRANKLIN R. KUHNS, 13006010, Master Sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Allentown, Pennsylvania.

CHESTER T. WOJDAKOWSKI, 31028442, First Sergeant, 206th Military Police Company, for meritorious service in action from 15 August 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Dorchester, Massachusetts.

WILLIAM HOCHMAN, 31009387, Technical Sergeant, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Hartford, Connecticult.

JOHN H. STERNER, 33062245, Technical Sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Cumberland, Maryland.

GILBERT BORNSTEIN, 31003035, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 August 1943 to 6 May 1945 in North Africa, Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Boston, Massachusetts.

GEORGE M. BROWN, 32117778, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 August 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Brooklyn, New York.

HERBERT H. ENO, 20100547, Staff Sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 6 May 1945 in Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from South Braintree, Massachusetts.

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PATRICK J. GERRY, 20100551, Staff Sergeant, [illegible] Military Police Company, for meritorious service in action from 15 August 1944 [illegible] Germany and Austria. Entered military service [illegible]

HENRY GOSLING, 32082154, Staff Sergeant, 200th Military Police Company, for meritorious service in action from 15 August 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from New York, New York.

ROLIN JONES, 16[illegible], Staff Sergeant, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 August 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Peoria, Illinois.

MICHAEL A. MARCEL, 31[illegible], Staff Sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 9 September 1943 to 6 May 1945 in Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Ansonia, Connecticut.

ARTHUR J. MITCHELL, 31[illegible], Staff Sergeant, 200th Military Police Company, for meritorious service in action from 15 August 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Milford, Massachusetts.

LOREN F. ROARK, 18126157, Technician Third Grade, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 1 November 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France and Germany. Entered military service from Fort Worth, Texas.

ROCCO ANGERAMI, 32157545, Sergeant, 200th Military Police Company, for meritorious service in action from 15 August 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Jersey City, New Jersey.

ROGER J. BELANGER, 31009567, Sergeant, Composite Service Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 August 1943 to 6 May 1945 in North Africa, Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Hartford, Connecticut.

WILLIAM E. COURTNEY, 31005642, Sergeant, 200th Military Police Company, for meritorious service in action from 15 August 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Worcester, Massachusetts.

LYLE E. SMITH, 35336900, Sergeant, 200th Military Police Company, for meritorious service in action from 15 August 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Toledo, Ohio.

MARTIN T. ARMITAGE JR, 31005482, Technician Fourth Grade, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Worcester, Massachusetts.

MARVIN O. CLARK, 39245933, Technician Fourth Grade, 57th Signal Battalion, for meritorious service in action from 9 September 1943 to 6 May 1945 in Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Los Angeles, California.

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FRANCIS T. KELLY, 32703277, Technician Fourth Grade, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 26 October 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from New York, New York.

HENRY AMBROSE, 33070313, Technician Fifth Grade, Headquarters Company VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 15 August 1943 to 6 May 1945 in North Africa, Italy, France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Glassmere, Pennsylvania.

WALTER C. BLOME, 36591724, Private First Class, Military Police Platoon VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 22 January 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

OWEN J. CARTER, 33518034, Private First Class, 206th Military Police Company for meritorious service in action from 22 January 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Danville, Virginia.

CORNELIUS V. GALLAGHER, 32928465, Private First Class, Military Police Platoon VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 22 January 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Bayonne, New Jersey.

CECIL D. GILBERT, 36515941, Private First Class, Military Police Platoon VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 22 January 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

STANLEY J. SMALEC, 30376041, Private First Class, 206th Military Police Company, for heroic achievement in action on 24 October 1944 in France. Entered military service from Detroit, Michigan.

RICHARD P. SMITH, 3[illegible]36906, Private First Class, Military Police Platoon VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 22 January 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from New Riegel, Ohio.

JOHN W. SNOTER, 36[illegible]1311, Private First Class, Military Police Platoon VI Corps, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations from 22 January 1944 to 6 May 1945 in France, Germany and Austria. Entered military service from Chicago, Illinois.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BROOKS:

CHARLES L. PALMER,
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

Michael L. Connors

MICHAEL L. CONNORS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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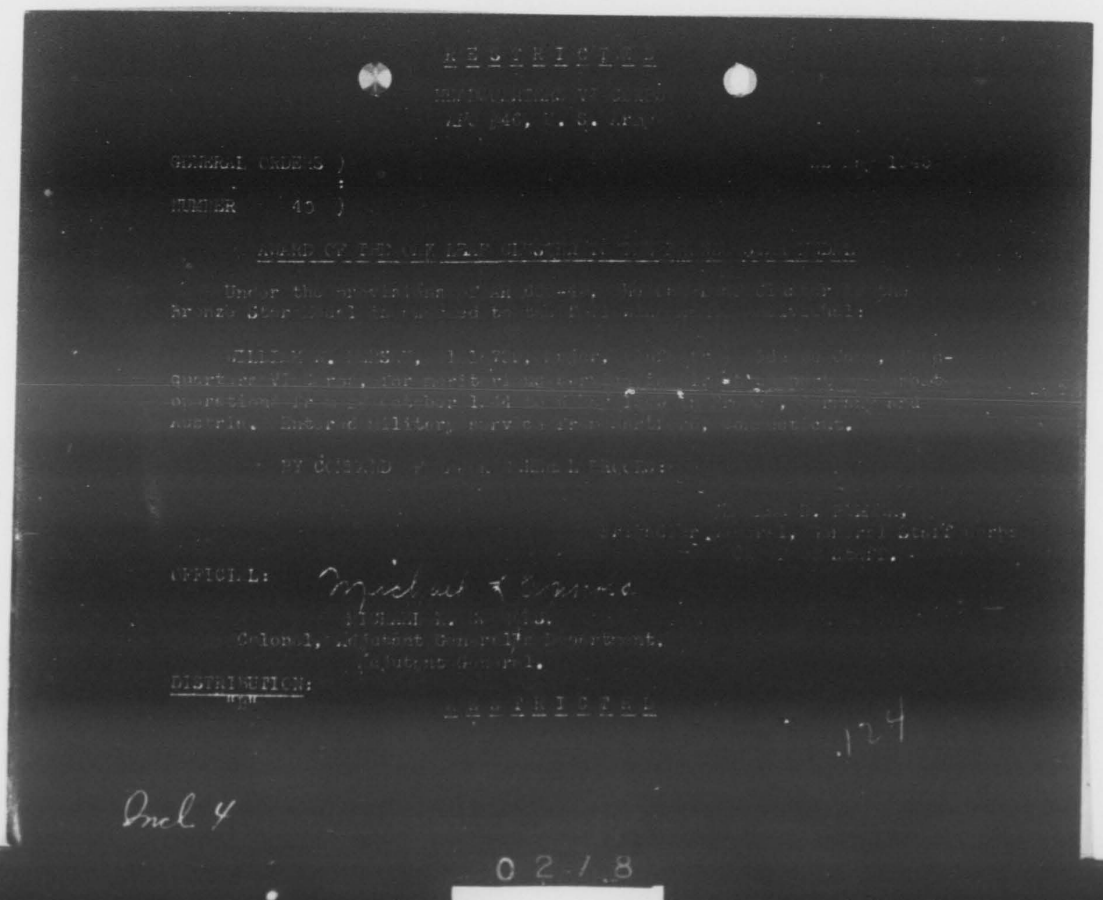

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GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 40)

OFFICIAL:

Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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By Authority of
CG VI Corps
Initials /s/ JS
13 May 45

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

VI CORPS COMBAT TROOP LIST
1300B May 45

Hq & Hq Co VI Corps

36th Inf Div
141st Inf - 131st FA Bn
142d Inf - 132d FA Bn
143d Inf - 133d FA Bn
156th FA Bn
111th Engr C Bn
Atchd:
753d Tk Bn
636th TD Bn
443d AAA AW Bn

44th Inf Div
71st Inf - 156th FA Bn
114th Inf - 217th FA Bn
324th Inf - 222d FA Bn
157th FA Bn
63d Engr C Bn
Atchd:
*772d Tk Bn
776th TD Bn
*96th Cml Mort Bn
*117th Cav Rcn Sq (Mecz)

45th Inf Div
157th Inf - 158th FA Bn
179th Inf - 160th FA Bn
180th Inf - 171st FA Bn
189th FA Bn
120th Engr C Bn
Atchd:
191st Tk Bn
645th TD Bn
106th AAA AW Bn
72d AAA Gun Bn

103d Inf Div
409th Inf - 388d FA Bn
410th Inf - 383d FA Bn
411th Inf - 928th FA Bn
384th FA Bn
388th Engr C Bn
Atchd:
*824th TD Bn
814th TD Bn
*781st Tk Bn
83d Cml Mort Bn

*2 DB
Atchd:
RFBM (TD Bn)

10th Armd Div
20th, 54th, 61st Armd Inf Bns
3d, 11th, 21st Tk Bns
419th, 490th, 423d Armd FA Bns
90th Cav Rcn Sq (Mecz)
55th Armd Engr Bn
Atchd:
609th TD Bn
796th AAA AW Bn

Hq & Hq Btry VI Corps Arty
2d FA Obsn Bn
Hq & Hq Btry 6th FA Gp
69th Armd FA Bn
634th FA Bn
939th FA Bn
36th FA Bn
194th FA Bn
Hq & Hq Btry 35th FA Gp
242d FA Bn
17th FA Bn
976th FA Bn
995th FA Bn
Hq & Hq Btry 405th FA Gp
59th Armd FA Bn
141st FA Bn
933d FA Bn
Hq & Hq Btry 421st FA Gp
602d FA Bn
698th FA Bn

Hq & Hq Btry & AAAOD 35th AAA Brig
Hq & Hq Btry 68th AAA Gp
Hq & Hq Btry 91st AAA Gp
Hq & Hq Co 1st Armd Gp
*Tr B 107th Cav Rcn Sq (Mecz)
481st AAA AW Bn
554th AAA AW Bn
353d AAA GM Bn
Hq & Hq Tr 115th Cav Rcn Gp
*107th Cav Rcn Sq (Mecz)(-Trs A,B)
503d AAA AW Bn
895th AAA AW Bn

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

CHANGES IN TROOP ATTACHMENTS AND DETACHMENTS - 11-31 [illegible]

Eff. Date	Attached	Detached
5 May	[illegible]	
11 May	45th Inf Div 106th AAA AW Bn 191st Tank Bn 645th TD Bn 36th Inf Div 443d AAA AW Bn 753d Tank Bn 63[illegible]th TD Bn 2d Fr Armd Div w/TD Bn atchd Hq & Hq Btry 68th AAA Group 72d AAA Gun Bn (less Det) 353d AAA S/L Bn (less Det) Hq & Hq Btry 421st FA Group 602d FA Bn 995th FA Bn 698th FA Bn 1697th Engr C Bn 78th Cml SB Co Hq & Hq Co 540th Engr C Gp 2832d Engr C Bn 2833d Engr C Bn 661st Engr Topo Co	
12 May	1 Plat, 2731st Engr Lt Equip Co	
13 May		Det, 259th Signal Pigeon Co
14 May		829th Amphibian Truck Co
17 May		117th Cav Ron Sqn
18 May		Radar Det, 216th AAA Gun Bn
20 May		1st Plat, 1021st Engr Treadway Bridge Co
21 May		513th QM Pack Co
29 May		2d Fr Armd Div w/TD Bn atchd 1697th Engr C Bn
30 May		Hq & Hq Co 540th Engr C Gp 451st AAA AW Bn

Incls.
7th Army Attachment and
Movement Orders - 11-31 May 45

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Annex # 24

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO #46, U. S. Army

23 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 41)

Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-20, the undersigned hereby assumes command.

[illegible]
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 445, U. S. Army

21 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 38)

RELIEF OF CORPS SECURITY OFFICER.....I
ANNOUNCEMENT OF AC OF S, G-5.....II

I RELIEF OF CORPS SECURITY OFFICER.

Brigadier General JAMES R. TOWNSEND, 06357, U. S. Army, Hq 35th AAA Brigade, is relieved from duty as Corps Security Officer.

II APPOINTMENT OF AC OF S, G-5.

Major ENRICO DELL'OSSO, 0257798, GSC, is announced as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5, this headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL BROOKS:

CHARLES D. PALMER,
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

Michael L Connors

MICHAEL L. CONNORS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 46, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 45)

27 May 1945

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF G-1

Colonel RICHARD STEINBACH, 0185CO, General Staff Corps, this headquarters, is announced as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1, VI Corps vice Lieutenant Colonel JOHN W. WIBEL, [illegible], GSC, relieved.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL [illegible]:

CHARLES [illegible] PALMER,
Brigadier General, General Staff Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

Michael L. Connors

MICHAEL L. CONNORS,
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department,
Adjutant General.

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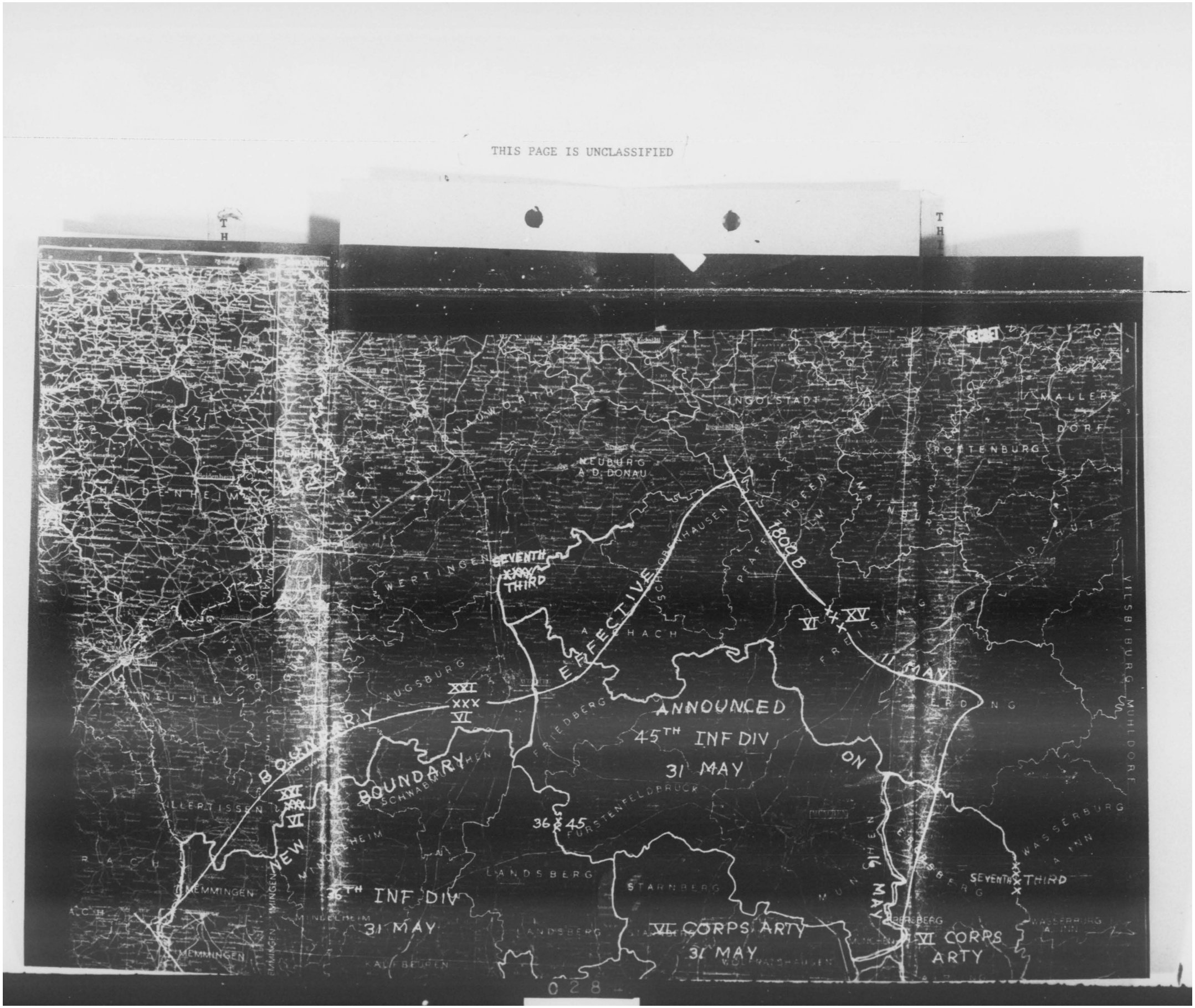

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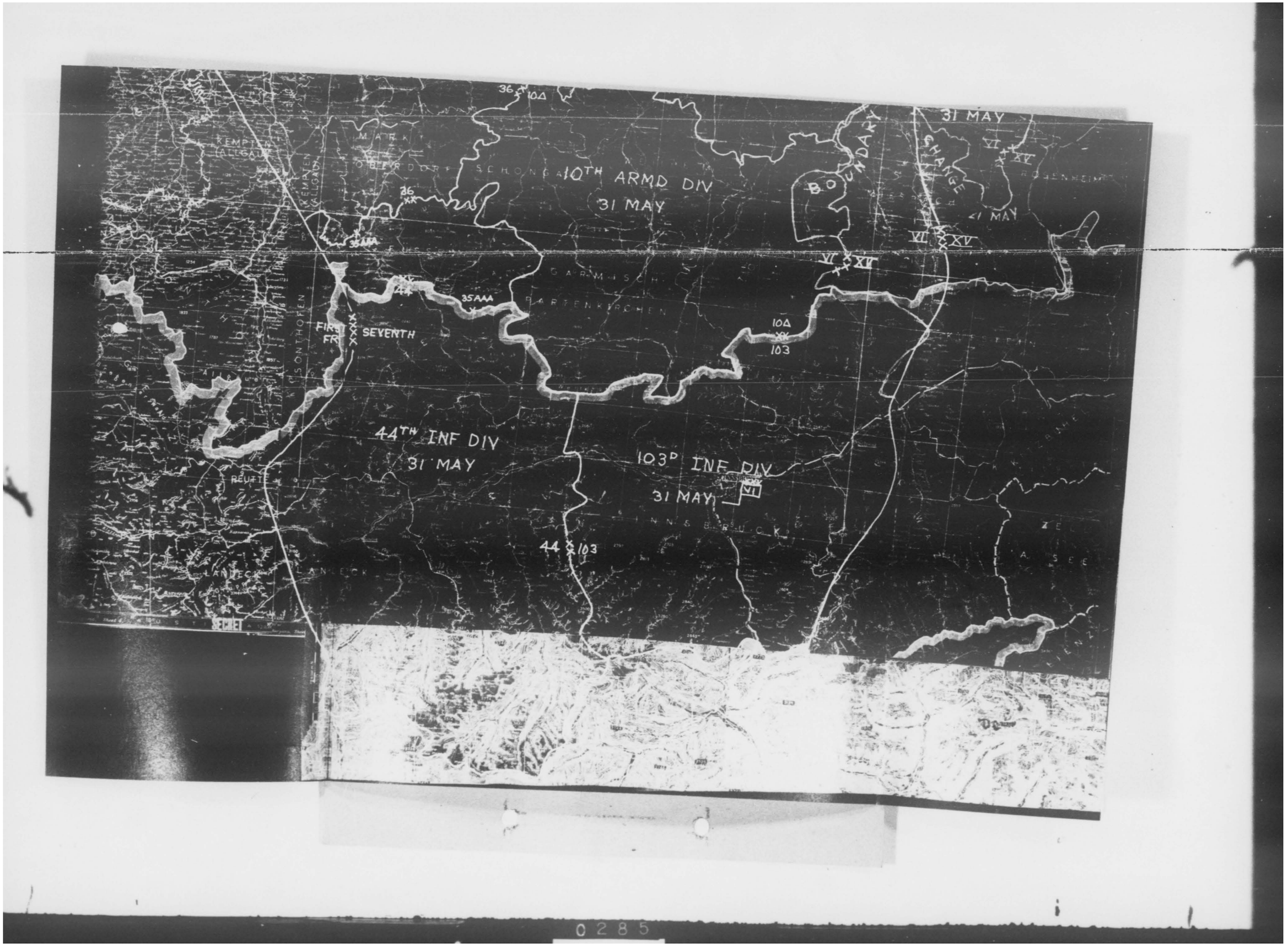

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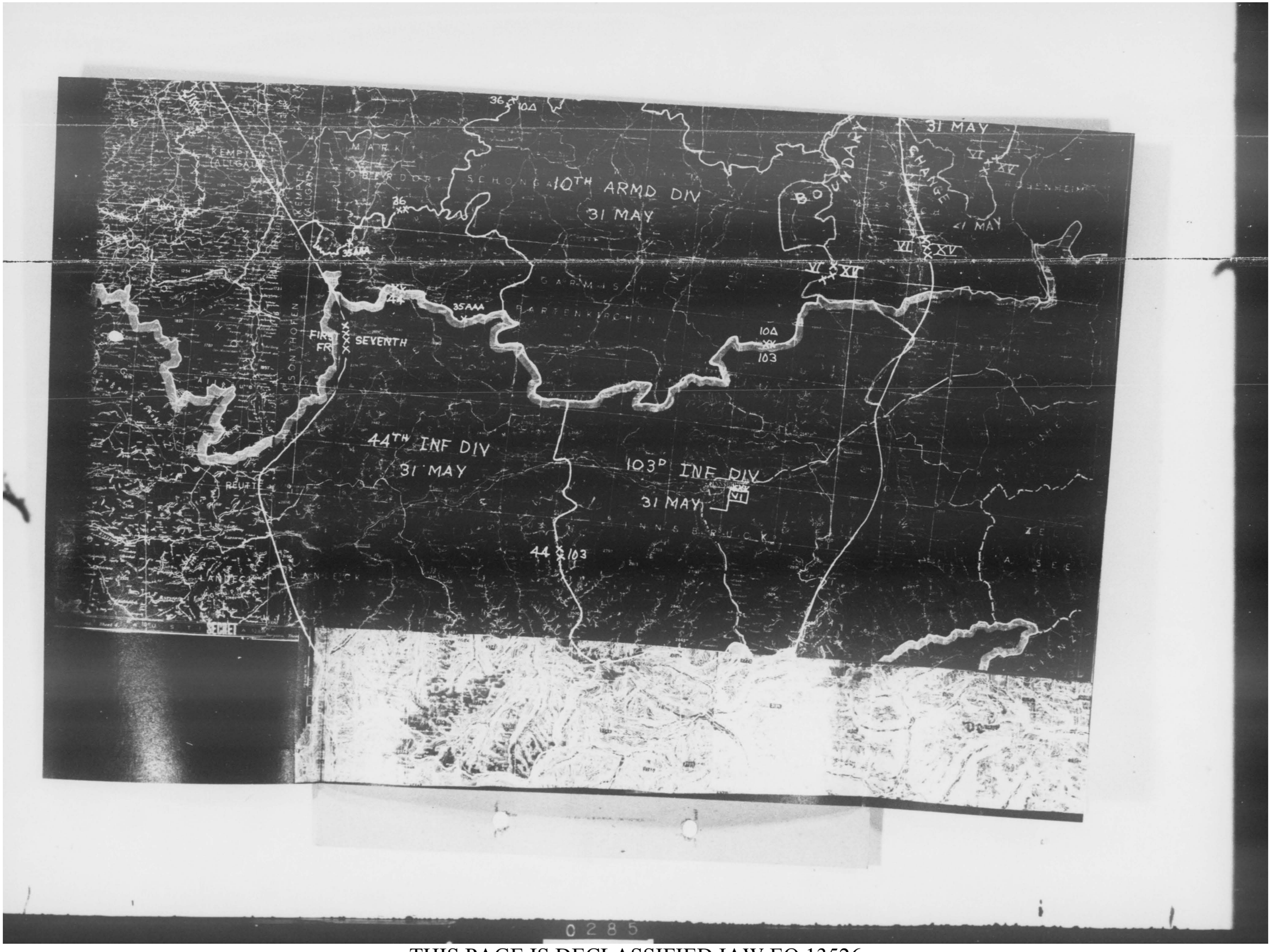

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10 March 1944
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4-1709-15

Report on Conference
in
Marrakech, French Morocco
on
7-8 June 1944

VI Corps

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APPENDIX NO. 2

HEADQUARTERS VI CORPS
APO 306

10 March 1944

Report of Col William H. Hill and Col E. J. O'Neill on Conference Held in In Marrakech, French Morocco on 7-8 January 1944

We arrived at ALGIERS on the afternoon of Thursday, 6 January 1944, and found we were not expected and no plans had been made for us to attend the conference at MARRAKECH. These arrangements were made, however, for us at our request. In conference at the G-3 Office, AFHQ, we gained the impression it was not going to be possible to launch Operation Shingle and so radioed to Headquarters VI Corps.

We arrived at MARRAKECH on the afternoon of Friday, 7 January and were billeted at the La Mamoulia Hotel. Immediately after we arrived we were called to a conference with General Alexander and his Chief of Staff, General Harding. We were first questioned about the tactical plan. Col Hill gave General Harding an overlay showing the outline plan. General Alexander asked about the details of the plan including:

Number of bns of each division to be landed in the assault.
Number and type of assault craft available.
Plan for unloading remainder of force and
Plan of operation to secure the beachhead after landing.

He mentioned the advisability of reducing the number of vehicles to be taken to a minimum. Then we were questioned as to maintenance and Colonel O'Neill stated it was impossible to go into the operation with only seven days maintenance. This appeared to be a radical change in plans, but the necessity for it was seen by General Alexander and General Harding. The question of the amount of daily maintenance for the contemplated force was discussed at great length and Colonel O'Neill insisted that this be figured as a minimum of 1500 tons a day. This figure appeared high to General Alexander but he finally accepted same. Colonel Hill then stated that General Clark considered the minimum requirement in shipping to execute the operation, in addition to the initial allotment, to be 24 LSTs for follow-ups.

Shortly after the conference with General Alexander, we were summoned to a conference with Admiral Cunningham whose main concern was the supply of craft for the operation and the maintenance for the force. He had based all his plans on the initial force landing with 7 days maintenance and no resupply, and was very much surprised at our insistence that it could not be done under these conditions. However, he appeared to accept the fact that continued maintenance had to be planned. He, likewise, thought 1500 tons a day maintenance high but did not question the figure too extensively.

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At 1630A we attended a conference at the Villa Taylor at which the following people were present: Prime Minister Churchill, Lord Beaverbrook, Generals Wilson, Devers, Smith, Alexander, Harding and Robertson, Admiral Cunningham, Brigadier Strong, Captain Lewis USN, Captain Powers, Royal Navy, Colonel William H. Hill, Colonel E. J. O'Neill, Lt Colonel Williams, Lt Colonel Duncan, and 2 Naval Officers on the staff of Admiral Cunningham. The Prime Minister directed the conference and started off by saying that originally it had been planned to land 1 division south of ROME, but for various reasons this had been discarded and now the plan was to land a larger force in the vicinity of ANZIO, with possible small diversionary efforts near the mouth of the Tiber and north of ROME. He had Brigadier Strong give an estimate of the enemy situation and then stated that the plan had been based on only 7 days maintenance with the rest of the Fifth Army joining forces with the Shingle force within that period. He then said he understood this plan was not now acceptable to the people who were to do it and asked "Why?". General Alexander explained the tactical plan and stated he concurred in the fact that it could not be launched unless with continued maintenance. The Prime Minister appeared to accept his explanation after some questioning of Colonel Hill as to the tactical plan and Colonel O'Neill as to the supply plan.

With the changed conception of the plan, the Prime Minister then proceeded to the question of the craft necessary for the operation and had Captain Powers explain what craft he believed would be available. This explanation was to the effect that not more than 88 and not less than 80 LSTs would be available for the operation for the initial assault. There was considerable discussion as to whether or not these craft would actually be available. Then followed some additional discussion reference how the force could be maintained and Admiral Cunningham stated he could not guarantee to maintain such a force over the beaches at that time of year. He felt that both Peter and X-Ray Beaches could be used in good weather but that with only 2 days good weather each week this was not sufficient for maintenance of this force. He stated that he felt the Port of ANZIO could not be used as all indications werethe Germans had been unable to use it and had sunk a vessel or two across the channel.

The discussion then turned to the date which the Prime Minister had originally planned for the 20th and Colonel Hill and Colonel O'Neill said would have to be not earlier than the 25th. A number of inquiries were made as to the reason for this and it finally hinged on the question of a rehearsal, with Colonel Hill maintaining a rehearsal was absolutely necessary because of past experiences and the Prime Minister maintaining that all troops were trained troops and needed no rehearsal. Colonel Hill called attention to the turn over in the 3d Division and the small number of personnel therein who had been in other landing operations. The Prime Minister insisted that one experienced Officer or Non-commissioned Officer in a platoon was sufficient.

The question of maintenance of the force was then brought up and Colonel O'Neill presented his plan of supplying by trucks loaded on LSTs with the empty trucks being returned to NAPLES for resupply. This plan was completely disapproved by the Prime Minister, Admiral Cunningham and General Smith, and a prohibition against reloading any trucks into LSTs was given. There was then discussed the question of beaching two Liberty ships so that the supplies therein

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could be constantly available. Admiral Cunningham gave permission for not to exceed two liberty ships to be so used but warned against the results which might be obtained due to damage in beaching the liberties and the effects of rough weather after beaching.

The Prime Minister then directed that a conference be held after dinner at which attempt would be made to settle the obstacles which appeared to confront the plan and that another conference would be held at 0930A in the morning.

After dinner all the personnel except the Prime Minister, Lord Beaverbrook and General Wilson assembled at the Le Mamoulia Hotel and were in conference until about 0130A. General Smith presided at this conference. Once again the enemy situation and the tactical plans were discussed and also the availability of craft. A final agreement was made that between 80 and 88 LSTs would be available for the assault and for continued use up until the 3d of February. From the 3d to the 13th of February 25 would be available and thereafter 14. Colonel O'Neill asked what would happen if these LSTs were loaded and off the beaches on February 2d with rough weather preventing their landing and Admiral Cunningham said they would have to be returned to NAPLES and unloaded as they would definitely have to sail on February 3d for Great Britain regardless of the condition of Shingle.

The question of supply by trucks on LSTs was discussed and once again a plan to ship empty trucks back to NAPLES was opposed. Colonel O'Neill was asked how many trucks would be needed if none were shipped back and he stated that 2,000 American 2½ ton trucks each loaded to 5 ton capacity would be necessary. General Robertson said he would furnish this number. The question was raised as to the figure of 1500 tons per day maintenance and Colonel O'Neill insisted this could not be lowered though General Smith and General Robertson said they would have their experts study it. Colonel O'Neill stated his figures were based on the type of operation and the necessity of having a heavy reserve of ammunition and that 60% of the maintenance would be ammunition. Admiral Cunningham reiterated that the Navy could not guarantee to supply this force over the beaches at this time of year. The question of a rehearsal was again discussed with Colonel Hill and Colonel O'Neill insisting on the necessity therefor but a decision was finally made that the date would have to be advanced to the 22d instead of the 25th in order to take advantage of the possibility of three extra days of good weather, even if it meant cancelling the rehearsal. This conference ended at about 0130A.

All personnel reassembled at Villa Taylor at 0930A Saturday morning at which General Smith reported to the Prime Minister the final decision that from 80 to 88 LSTs would be available up until February 3d, 25 LSTs from the 3d to the 13th, and 14 thereafter; that the date would be advanced to the 22d; and that 2,000 supply trucks would be furnished by General Robertson. The Prime Minister appeared to feel this was a good solution and stated that Shingle would be launched under those conditions.

In a talk after the conference with General Devers, he told us that he would see that we got to keep the LSTs that were necessary and that we would be fully supported.

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/S/ William H. Hill
WILLIAM H. HILL,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
A C of S, G-3

/S/ Edward J. O'Neill
EDWARD J. O'NEILL,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
A C of S, G-4

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS ARTILLERY
APO 307 U S Army

3 February 1945

SUBJECT: Action Against the Enemy, Reports After.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D C (Through Channels).

In compliance with par 10 (c3) AR 345-105 and ltr Hq First U S Army, file 319.1/401 (c), Subject: Action Against Enemy Reports After/After Action Reports, dated 13 July 1944, the following report for this unit during the period 1 January 1945 to 31 January 1945 is submitted:

A. Original Unit.

1. Designation: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, VII Corps Artillery.
2. Date of organization: No change.
3. Place of organization: No change.
4. Authorization: No change.
5. Personnel obtained from: No change.

B. Changes in organization: No change.

C. Strength:

1 January	25 Officers	1 WO	105 Enlisted Men
31 January	27 Officers	1 WO	103 Enlisted Men

Net Increase: 2 Officers
Net Decrease: 2 Enlisted Men

D. Stations:

Vicinity of SOMME LEUZE, BELGIUM (WQP 317-957) from 1 Jan 45 thru 2 Jan 45.
Vicinity of LES ANNAIS, BELGIUM (WQP 477-956) from 3 Jan 45 thru 7 Jan 45.
Vicinity of CLERHEID, BELGIUM (WQP 475-908) from 8 Jan 45 thru 10 Jan 45.
Vicinity of MALEMPRE, BELGIUM (WQP 563-891) from 11 Jan 45 thru 14 Jan 45.
Vicinity of FRAITURE, BELGIUM (WQP 587-862) from 15 Jan 45 thru 24 Jan 45.
Vicinity of SAINTE FONTAINE, BELGIUM (WQK 229-036) from 25 Jan 45 thru 31 Jan 45.

E. Marches: See Narrative Report, Appendix No 1.

F. Campaigns:

1. Name: GERMANY.
2. Duration: 15 Sept 44 to date.

Classification Changed to
RESTRICTED 12 JUN 1945
by authority of AC of S, G-2, WDGS
by Ray M. Stroupe
RAY M. STROUPE
Capt., Inf

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Hq VII Corps Arty, 3 Feb 44
Action Against the Enemy, Reports After.

3. Purpose: Unannounced.
4. Authority: General Order No 80, War Department, 1944.

G. Battles: See Narrative Report, Appendix No 1.

H. Commanding General: Brigadier General WILLISTON B PALMER, 0-12246.

I. Losses in Action: None.

J. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action: None.

K. Photographs: None.

L. See Inclosures No 1 thru 5 inclusive.

RECEIVED
5 FEB 1945
HEADQUARTERS
VII CORPS
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S SECTION

Andrew P O'Meara
ANDREW P O'MEARA
Colonel, F A
Deputy Corps Artillery Commander

6078

Inclosures:

Incl No 1 - Appendix No 1.
Incl No 2 - Unit Journal
Incl No 3 - S-2 CBO Estimate
Incl No 4 - FA Periodic Reports and Field Orders
Incl No 5 - Anti-Tank Journal

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APPENDIX NO 1

NARRATIVE REPORT OF BATTLES AND OPERATIONS

The New Year was ushered in with 3 volleys being fired by each FA Battalion with the VII Corps on selected targets TOT at 3:12:00A. This was followed by a heavy harassing program throughout the remainder of the night.

The first two days of January were spent by the Corps Artillery in reconnoitering, occupying, and organizing positions in the new Corps zone of action. Normal counterbattery, interdiction, harassing, and reinforcing missions were continued during these two days in spite of the movement of the bulk of the Corps Artillery.

On 3 January the VII Corps attacked southeast toward Houffalize (P6071). Due to the lack of profitable artillery targets and the desire to achieve the maximum of surprise no artillery preparation was fired.

During the period 4 - 23 January the Corps Artillery supported the continuing attack of the Corps. Almost daily it joined in on one or more Division Artillery preparations. Divisions also made frequent calls on Corps Artillery to reinforce their fires on normal close support missions. A heavy interdiction and harassing program on enemy supply routes and routes of withdrawal was laid on at nights and whenever observation was limited. There was little call for counterbattery fires due to the fact that enemy artillery activity consisted mainly of harassing fire from single SP guns. Our Air OPs operated for short periods whenever the weather cleared sufficiently.

On numerous occasions the artillery with the British XXX Corps answered calls for fire from the VII Corps and in return VII Corps answered several calls from XXX Corps and 53 Division (Br).

Throughout this period the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions each had an Armored FA Battalion and a 155mm howitzer Battalion attached; the latter also had an SP 155mm gun Battalion attached until 11 January. The spare 105mm howitzer Battalion in the Corps was attached to the 84th Infantry Division.

The bulk of the artillery remaining under Corps control was handled by the 18th and 188th Field Artillery Groups, both of which were in general support. The 8" and 240mm howitzer battalions were in general support also but operated directly under the Corps Artillery FDC.

On 12 January the 193rd FA Battalion (105 H) was taken out of action in order to be re-equipped with British 25 Pounders.

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Appendix No 1, Cont'd:

On 24 January six battalions and one group headquarters were relieved from attachment to VII Corps when the Corps was relieved of responsibility for its zone of action. The remainder of the Corps Artillery moved 24 - 25 January to rest areas in the general area of Havelange (K2702) where they engaged in maintenance of equipment and rehabilitation of personnel for the balance of the month.

for FRED P CAMPBELL
Lt Col, FA
S-3

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS ARTILLERY
APO 307 U S Army

3 January 1945

SUBJECT: Action Against the Enemy, Reports After.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D C (Through Channels).

In compliance with par 10 (c3) AR 345-105 and ltr Hq First U S Army, file 319.1/401 (c), Subject: Action Against Enemy Reports After/After Action Reports, dated 13 July 1944, the following report for this unit during the period 1 December 1944 to 31 December 1944 is submitted.

A. Original Unit.

1. Designation: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, VII Corps Artillery.
2. Date of organization: No change.
3. Place of organization: No change.
4. Authorization: No change.
5. Personnel obtained from: No change.

B. Changes in organization: No change.

C. Strength:

1 December	25 Officers	1 WO	106	Enlisted Men
31 December	25 Officers	1 WO	105	Enlisted Men
Net Decrease	0 Officers	0 WO	1	Enlisted Man

D. Stations: Vicinity of SCHERPENSEEL, GERMANY (WX 983-447) from 1 Dec 44 thru 21 Dec 44.
Vicinity of SOMME LEUZE, BELGIUM (WQP 317-957) from 22 Dec 44 thru 31 Dec 44.

E. Marches: See Narrative Report, Appendix No 1.

F. Campaigns:

1. GERMANY
2. 15 Sept 44 to date.
3. Not published.
4. General Order No 80, War Department, 1944.

G. Battles: See Narrative Report, Appendix No 1.

H. Commanding General: Brigadier General WILLISTON B PALMER, 0-12210.

I. Losses in action: None.

J. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

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Headquarters VII Corps Artillery,
Subject: Action Against the Enemy,
Reports After, dated 3 January 1945.

1. a. Engagement: Service with WD Planning Board.
   b. Name: Colonel LEMUEL MATHEWSON 011980
   c. Act: Meritorious service in connection with combat operations.
   d. Reward: Legion of Merit (per cablegram AGPD-B 201 Mathewson, Lemuel dated 21 Oct 44 from The Adjutant General to Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force.)

2. a. Engagement: Operations in France.
   b. Name: Lt Col FRED P CAMPBELL 020704
   c. Act: Meritorious performance of duty.
   d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal, in the name of the President of the United States by Admiral Harold R Stark, Commander, U S Naval Forces in Europe. (General Order unknown)

3. a. Engagement: Pre-invasion planning period.
   b. Name: Major ROBERT J REED 0392414
   c. Act: Meritorious service in support of active combat operations.
   d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal (GO 86, Sec II, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 21 Dec 44.)

4. a. Engagement: Operations in France, Belgium, Germany.
   b. Name: Major JAMES S MILLER 0388400
   c. Act: Meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight, having completed the required number of operational sorties against the enemy.
   d. Reward: Air Medal (GO 67, Sec VI, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 11 Oct 44.)

5. a. Engagement: Operations in France, Belgium, Germany.
   b. Name: Captain FRANKLIN A KEKON 01107003 (then 1st Lt)
   c. Act: Meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight, having completed the required number of operational sorties against the enemy.
   d. Reward: Air Medal (GO 67, Sec VI, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 11 Oct 44.)

6. a. Engagement: Operations in France, Belgium, Germany.
   b. Name: 1st Lt JOHN H VAN LANDINGHAM 0530169
   c. Act: Meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight, having completed the required number of operational sorties against the enemy.
   d. Reward: Air Medal (GO 67, Sec VI, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 11 Oct 44.)
      Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster to Air Medal (GO 84, Sec VII, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 12 Dec 44.)

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Headquarters VII Corps Artillery,
Subject: Action Against the Enemy;
Reports After, dated 3 January 1945.

7. a. Engagement: Operations in France and Belgium.
   b. Name: 1st Lt WILLIAM W CARSON 0440408
   c. Act: Meritorious service in connection with active combat operations.
   d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal (GO 85, Sec IV, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 15 Dec 44.)

8. a. Engagement: Operations in France and Belgium.
   b. Name: 1st Lt ARNOLD E RISINGER 02045142 (then 2nd Lt)
   c. Act: Meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight, having completed the required number of operational sorties against the enemy.
   d. Reward: Air Medal (GO 67, Sec VI, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 11 Oct 44.)

9. a. Engagement: Operations in France and Belgium.
   b. Name: Pvt HASKILL S WHITTINGTON 14050175
   c. Act: Meritorious service in support of active combat operations.
   d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal (GO 82, Sec II, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 6 Dec 44.)

K. Photographs: None.

L. See Inclosures No 1 thru 5 inclusive.

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JAN 14 1945
Received
ob

W B Palmer

W B PALMER,
Brigadier General, U S Army,
Commanding.

Inclosures:

Incl No 1 - Appendix No 1.
Incl No 2 - Unit Journal.
Incl No 3 - S-2 CBO Estimate.
Incl No 4 - FA Periodic Reports and Field Orders.
Incl No 5 - Anti-Tank.

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Dec 44

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APPENDIX NO 1

NARRATIVE REPORT OF BATTLES AND OPERATIONS

From 1 December to 20 December inclusive the Corps Artillery supported the Corps in its attack east to the Roer River. Almost daily the Corps Artillery joined the artillery of one or more divisions in firing preparations for limited objective attacks. On numerous occasions all available fires were massed to repulse small-scale German counterattacks. The slowness of our advance in this sector enabled the enemy to bring up and organize an imposing force of artillery. However, due either to supply difficulties or fear of our counterbattery fire, he did not employ his artillery to any very damaging extent; nevertheless, enemy batteries were the favorite target of the Corps Artillery during this period. Throughout the period heavy harassing and interdiction fires were laid on to hinder enemy movement and keep him awake at night. As a result most of the German towns in our path, because they provided shelter for the enemy and were road centers as well, suffered considerable if not complete destruction.

In addition to an attached 155mm howitzer battalion, a platoon of SP 155mm guns was attached from 1 to 15 December to each of the 1st and 104th Infantry Divisions for use in direct fire against enemy strong points and fortified buildings.

The entire Corps Artillery less one 155mm howitzer battalion moved 21 - 23 December to assembly areas in the new Corps zone of action in the general area south of Maffe (P-2191). Firing positions were occupied 23 - 24 December as the situation developed. Variable time fuze was made available to and used by the Corps Artillery for the first time on 24 December.

From 25 December till the end of the month the Corps Artillery was active in repelling the numerous German attacks aimed at siezing important road centers. Due to the failure of these limited objective attacks, the enemy did not launch the expected large scale attack against the Corps. Besides massed fires on German attacks, the Corps Artillery laid on heavy harassing and interdiction fires at nights and whenever visibility was poor. Counterbattery missions were rare due to the lack of enemy artillery activity. One armored FA battalion and one 155mm howitzer battalion were attached to each of the armored divisions and one 105mm howitzer battalion was attached to the 84th Infantry Division.

Fred P Campbell

FRED P CAMPBELL
Lt Col, FA
S-3

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS ARTILLERY
APO 307 U.S. Army.

3 December 1944

SUBJECT: Action Against the Enemy, Reports After.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Through Channels).

In compliance with par 10.(c3) AR 345-105 and ltr Hq First Army, file [illegible], Subject: Action Against Enemy Reports After/After Action Reports, dated 13 July 1944, the following report for this unit during the period 1 November 1944 to 30 November 1944 is submitted.

A. Unit History.

1. Designation: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, VII Corps Artillery.
2. Date of organization: No change.
3. Place of organization: No change.
4. Authorization: No change.
5. Personnel obtained from: No change.

B. Changes in organization: No change.

C. Strength: 1 November 24 Officers 1 [illegible] 106 Enlisted Men
30 November 25 Officers 1 [illegible] 106 Enlisted Men

D. Stations:

1. Vicinity of DORFF, GERMANY (WQX 917-340) from 1 Nov thru 27 Nov 1944.
2. Vicinity of SCHERPENSEEL, GERMANY (WQX 983-447) from 28 Nov thru 30 Nov 1944.

E. Marches: See D above.

F. Campaigns: Operations in GERMANY.

G. Battles: See Narrative Report, Appendix No 1.

H. Commanding General: Brigadier General WILLISTON B PALMER, 0-22246.

I. Losses in action: None.

J. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

1. a. Engagement: Operations in Germany.
   b. Name: Tec 4 ROBERT R LOUDERBACK 37603595 (Then Tec 5)
   c. Act: For heroic achievement in action against the enemy.
   d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal, (GO No 74, Sec IV, Hqs VII Corps, APO 307, dated 12 Nov 1944.)

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Headquarters VII Corps Artillery.
Subject: Action Against the Enemy,
Reports After, dated 3 December 1944.

2. a. Engagement: Operations in Germany.
b. Name: Tec 5 ARTHUR S LINVILLE 37506811.
c. Act: For heroic achievement in action against the enemy.
d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal, (GO No 77, Sec V, Hqs VII Corps, APO 307, dated 17 Nov 1944.)

3. a. Engagement: Operations in Germany.
b. Name: Tec 5 CHARLES E FAULKNELL 35510084 (Then Pfc)
c. Act: For heroic achievement in action against the enemy.
d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal, (GO No 77, Sec V, Hqs VII Corps, APO 307, dated 17 Nov 1944.)

4. a. Engagement: Operations in Germany.
b. Name: Tec 5 HUGH L FULLER 37459791 (Then Pfc)
c. Act: For heroic achievement in action against the enemy.
d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal, (GO No 77, Sec V, Hqs VII Corps, APO 307, dated 17 Nov 1944.)

5. a. Engagement: Operations in Germany.
b. Name: Pfc CHARLES C McMILLAN, 37502472
c. Act: For heroic achievement in action against the enemy.
d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal, (GO No 74, Sec IV, Hqs VII Corps, APO 307, dated 12 Nov 1944.)

6. a. Engagement: Operations in Germany.
b. Name: Private ERNEST C SCHNITZLER 37459657
c. Act: For heroic achievement in action against the enemy.
d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal, (GO No 74, Sec IV, Hqs VII Corps, APO 307, dated 12 Nov 1944.)

K. Photographs: None.

L. See Inclosures No 1 thru 5 inclusive.

W B Palmer
W. B. PALMER,
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

Inclosures:

Incl No 1 - Appendix No 1.
Incl No 2 - Unit Journal.
Incl No 3 - S-2 CBO Estimate.
Incl No 4 - FA Periodic Reports and Rapid Orders.
Incl No 5 - Anti-tank.

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NARRATIVE REPORT OF BATTLES & OPERATIONS

The first half of November was a very quiet period for the Artillery with VII Corps, while the second half of the month was the busiest period of the campaign to date.

Throughout the month one 155mm howitzer battalion from the Corps Artillery was attached to each Infantry Division in the Corps. The 180th FA Group including one 4.5" gun battalion, one 155mm gun battalion, and one observation battery operated either in support of or attached to the right flank division of the Corps. The artillery remained under Corps control and was located centrally so as to cover the central and northern sections of the Corps zone of action.

From 1 November to 15 November Corps Artillery activity was restricted by very limited ammunition allocations. The majority of the missions during the period were counterbattery, interdiction, and harassing.

On 16 November the artillery with the Corps supported the Corps attack with a counter-flak preparation, a counterbattery preparation, and a heavy preparation in close support of the infantry and armor. For the counter-flak preparation [illegible] heavy enemy AA Corps fired on as they were first over the counterattack arrived over the target area, the neutralizing fire was maintained for [illegible] thereafter. In addition, the [illegible] flak patrol. The 1st Infantry Division reported that the counter-flak preparation was extremely effective, and that planes were lost. For the counterbattery preparation [illegible] enemy batteries which were [illegible] several thousand rounds were fired on between -00 and -hour. Each division was fired [illegible] battalion artillery and the average expenditure per [illegible] battalion volleys. In the close-in preparation all available artillery was massed on enemy defensive positions and critical terrain features over which our troops were to pass. The artillery with the Corps was augmented with 75mm and 76mm tank gun fire which was massed on area targets in front of the 1st and 3rd Infantry Divisions. [illegible] rocket launchers of the 18th FA Battalion were used for the first time against the Germans in this sector.

From 17 November to 24 November inclusive the Corps Artillery supported the continuing attack of the Corps with [illegible] preparations, counterbattery, and harassing fires, and [illegible] counter-flak and enemy counterattacks. Counter-flak preparations were fired whenever [illegible] of friendly bombers operating over the Corps sector.

[illegible] was made of the [illegible] Corps artillery [illegible] installations due to their high muzzle velocity [illegible] fire they were utilized for surprise fire against enemy batteries and [illegible].

[illegible] two 8" howitzer battalions [illegible] were attached to each of the 1st and 45th Infantry Divisions to provide direct support fire to the supported Infantry units in their [illegible] attack. [illegible] were fired on direct fire missions reported.

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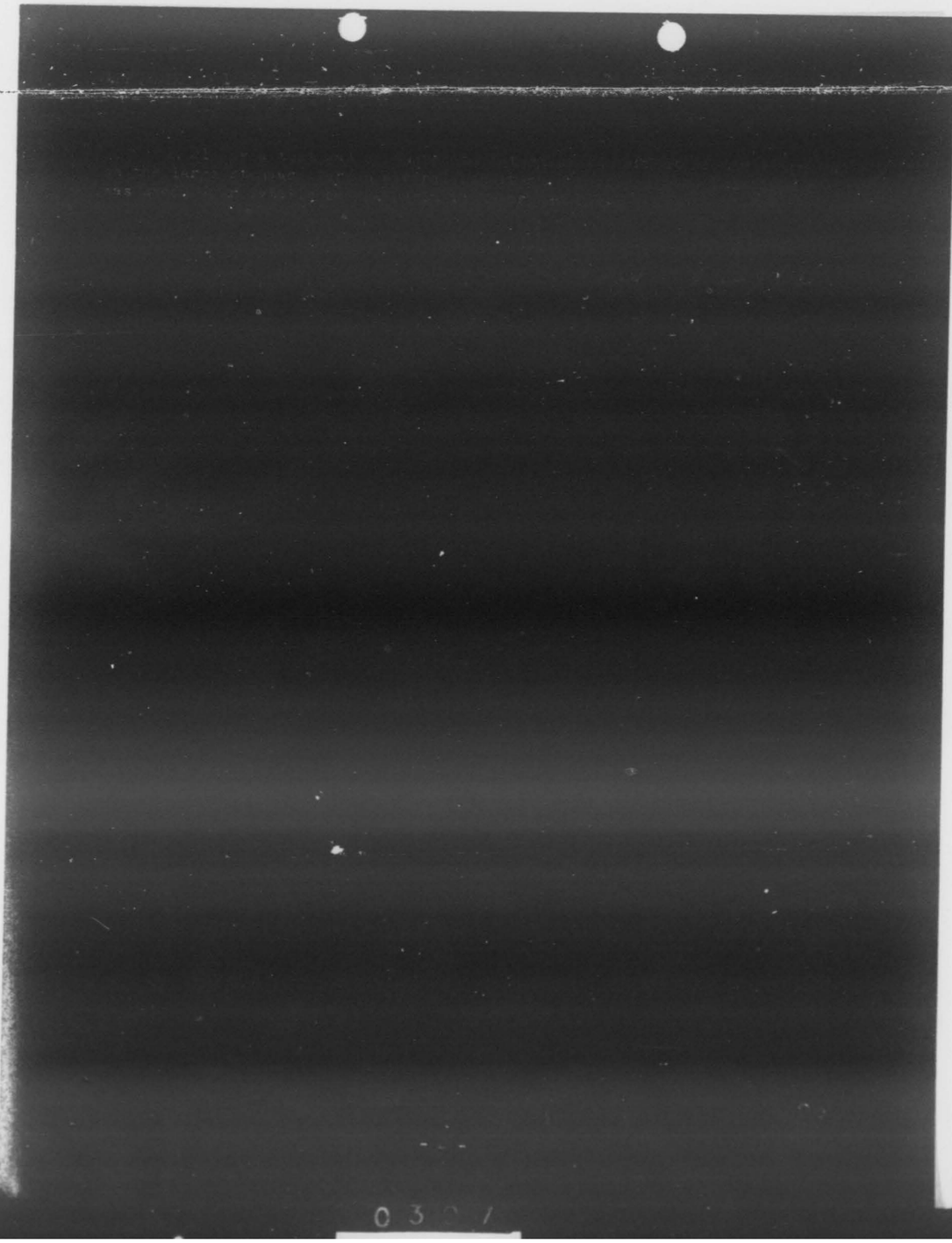

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS ARTILLERY
APO 307 US Army

1 November 1944

SUBJECT: Action Against the Enemy, Reports After.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Through Channels).

In compliance with Par 10 (c3) AR 345-105 and ltr Hq FUSA, file 319.1/401 (c), Subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Actions Report, dated 13 July 1944, the following report for this unit during period 1 October 1944 to 31 October 1944 is submitted.

A. Unit History.

1. Designation: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, VII Corps Artillery.
2. Date of organization: No change.
3. Place of organization: No change.
4. Authorization: No change.
5. Personnel obtained from: No change.

B. Changes in organization: No change.

C. Strength: 1 October 24 Officers 1 W.O. 109 Enlisted Men
31 October 24 Officers 1 W.O. 106 Enlisted Men

D. Stations:

1. Vic. DORFF, GERMANY, (WQK-390) 1 October through 31 October.

E. Marches: None

F. Campaigns: Operations in GERMANY.

G. Battles: See Narrative Report, Appendix No. 1.

H. Commanding General: Brigadier General WILLISTON B. PALMER, O-12246.

I. Losses in Action: None.

J. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

1. a. Engagement: Operations in France, Belgium, and Germany.
b. Name: Major James E. Miller, O-388400.
c. Act : Meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight by completing required number of operational sorties against the enemy from 14 June 44 to 22 Sept. 44.
d. Award : Air Medal (GO No. 67, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 11 Oct. 44).

2. a. Engagement: Operations in France, Belgium, and Germany.
b. Name : Capt. (then 1st Lt.) FRANKLIN A. KEMON, O-1167063.
c. Act : Meritorious achievement while participating in aerial

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flight by completing required number of operational sorties during the period from 14 June 44 to 22 Sept. 44.

d. Award : Air Medal. (GO No. 87, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 11 Oct. 44).

3.a. Engagement: Operations in France, Belgium, and Germany.
b. Name : 1st Lt. (then 2nd Lt.) [illegible], [illegible], [illegible].
c. Act : Meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight by completing required number of operational sorties during the period from 14 June 44 to 22 Sept. 44.
d. Award : Air Medal. (GO No. 87, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 11 October 44).

4. a. Engagement: Operations in France, Belgium, and Germany.
b. Name : 1st Lt. JOHN A. [illegible], [illegible].
c. Act : Meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight by completing required number of operational sorties during the period from 14 June 44 to 22 Sept. 44.
d. Award : Air Medal. (GO No. 87, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 11 Oct. 44).

5. a. Engagement: England.
b. Name : Lt. Col (then Major) [illegible].
c. Act : Meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 20 March 1944 to 4 May 1944.
d. Award : Bronze Star (GO 71, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 28 Oct. 1944).

6. a. Engagement: England.
b. Name : Lt. Col. (then Major) [illegible], 0346714. (Now assigned to Hq VII Corps).
c. Act : Meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 15 March 1944 to 6 June 1944.
d. Award : Bronze Star (GO 71, Hq VII Corps, APO 307, dated 28 Oct. 1944).

K. Photographs: None.

L. See Inclosures No. 1 thru 8 inclusive.

[illegible]
Brigadier General, U.S. Army,
Commanding.

Inclosures:

Incl #1 - Appendix No. 1.
Incl #2 - Unit Journal.
Incl #3 - S-3 Journal.
Incl #4 - F.A. Periodic Reports.
Incl #5 - Field Orders and Annexes.
Incl #6 - Anti-Tank.

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS ARTILLERY
APO 307 U S Army

2 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Action Against the Enemy, Reports After.

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington, D C (Through Channels).

In compliance with par 10 (c3) AR 345-105 and ltr Hq First US Army, file 319.1/401 (c), Subject: Action Against Enemy Reports After/After Action Reports, dated 13 July 1944, the following report for this unit during the period 1 October 1944 to 31 October 1944 is submitted.

A. Unit History.

1. Designation: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, VII Corps Artillery.
2. Date of organization: No change.
3. Place of Organization: No change.
4. Authorization: No change.
5. Personnel obtained from: No change.

B. Changes in organization: No change.

C. Strength: 1 October 24 Officers 1 WO 109 Enlisted Men
31 October 24 Officers 1 WO 106 Enlisted Men

D. Stations:

1. Vicinity of DORFF, GERMANY, (WQX 917-340) from 1 Oct thru 31 Oct, 1944.

E. Marches: None.

F. Campaigns: Operations in FRANCE, BELGIUM, AND GERMANY.

G. Battles: See Narrative Report, Appendix No 1.

H. Commanding General: Brigadier General WILLISTON B PALMER, 0-12246.

I. Losses in action: None.

J. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

1. a. Engagement: Pre-invasion period.

b. Name: Lieutenant Colonel ROBERT M BREWER 022975.

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Headquarters VII Corps Artillery.
Subject: Action Against the Enemy,
Reports After, dated 2 November 1944.

c. Act: For meritorious service in support of active combat operations.

d. Reward: Bronze Star Medal. (GO No 71, Hqs VII Corps, APO 307, dated 28 Oct 1944.)

K. Photographs: None.

L. See inclosures No 1 thru 5 inclusive.

W B Palmer

W B PALMER,
Brigadier General, U S Army.
Commanding.

81 AGO
13 NOV 1944
Received

Inclosures:

Incl No 1 - Appendix No 1.
Incl No 2 - Unit Journal.
Incl No 3 - S-2 CSO Estimate.
Incl No 4 - FA Periodic Reports and Field Orders.
Incl No 5 - Anti-tank.

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APPENDIX NO 1

NARRATIVE REPORT OF BATTLES AND OPERATIONS

Artillery activity during the month was characterized by the supporting of limited objective attacks, the reduction of the city of AACHEN, and the repelling of German counterattacks. The width of the Corps front necessitated attachment of a portion of the Corps Artillery to the 9th Infantry Division on the right flank, while the majority of the Corps Artillery was centralized to support the action of the 1st Inf Div on the left and the 3rd Armd Div in the center.

From 1 October to 11 October Corps Artillery supported the 1st Inf Div as it attacked North to effect a junction with the XIX Corps and isolate the city of AACHEN. Heavy counterbattery fires, coordinated with the artillery of the XIX Corps on the left, were employed to the maximum extent consistent with limited ammunition allocations.

From 11 October to 23 October, Corps Artillery aided in the reduction of AACHEN and in repelling numerous German counterattacks aimed at breaking through the 1st Division and relieving the city. Plans for the reduction of the city were coordinated with the Air Corps and 1st Inf Div. On 11 and 12 October, 242 tons of Artillery Ammunition were fired into the city. Thereafter, close support to the Infantry assaulting the city was furnished by precision adjustments of 8" (195th FA Bn) and 240 mm (203th FA Bn) howitzers on strong points, and by direct fire of the 155 self-propelled guns of Btry C, 991st FA Bn (155 SP). (For a report on the effectiveness of the SP gun see FA Periodic Report No. 133.)

While the city of AACHEN was being reduced, strong German counterattacks were made from the East. Massed fires, by as many as 10 battalions, were employed to break up the counterattacks. The fires were coordinated by the 1st Inf Div and VII Corps Artillery FDC, using all available fires from our own and XIX Corps. On two occasions, massed fires at night on suspected assembly areas were reported by the Infantry to have broken up German attacks which were forming up.

From 23 October until the end of the period, defensive fires, counterbattery, and harassing fires were executed to the maximum permitted by the available ammunition.

Fred Campbell

FRED P CAMPBELL
Lt Col, FA
S-3

Incl. No. 1

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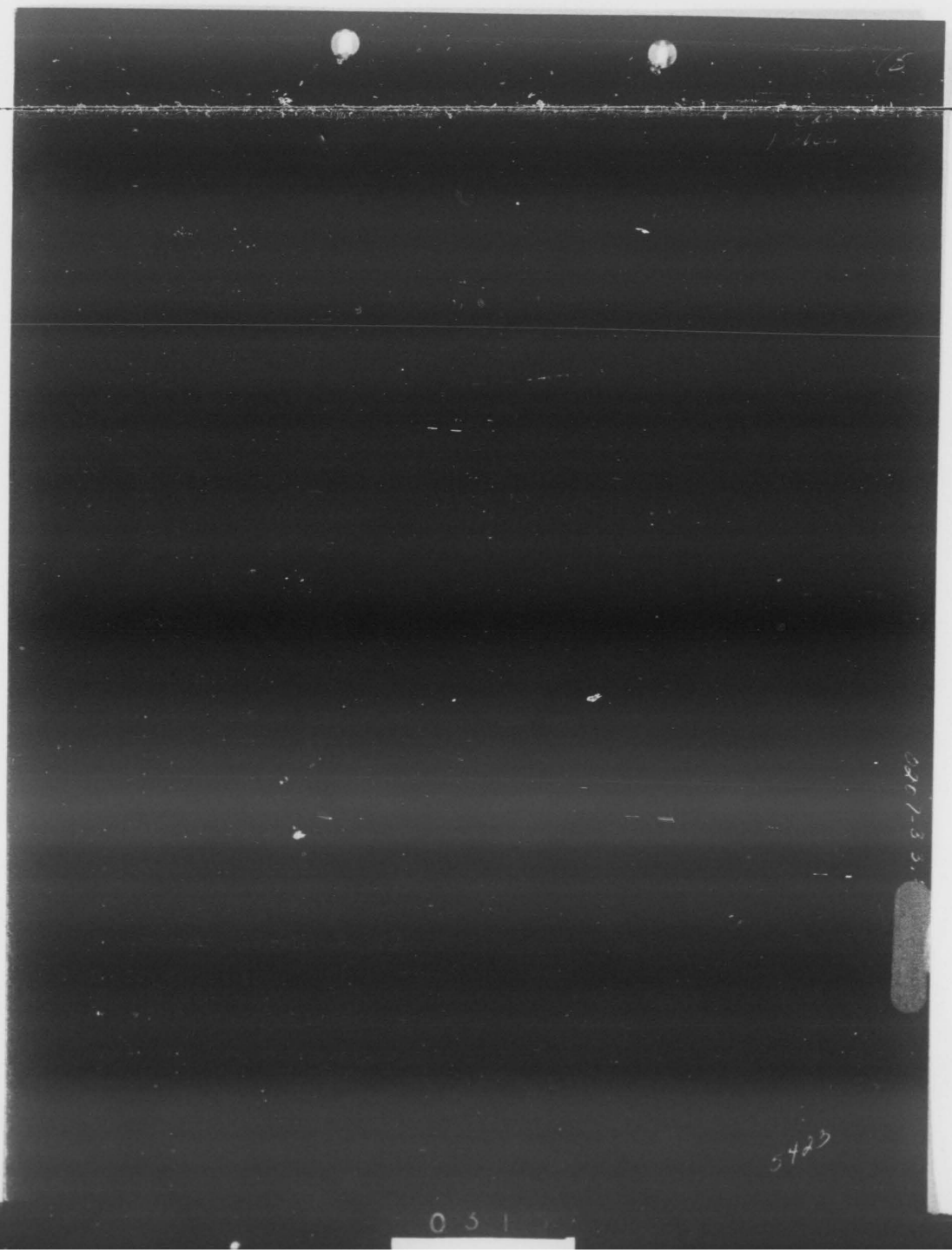

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS ARTILLERY
APO 307 U.S. Army

SECRET
AUTH: CG-VII AC
Cas
9 Sept 44

6 September 1944

T-289

SUBJECT: Action Against the Enemy, Reports After.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Through Channels).

In compliance with Par 10 (c3) AR 345-105 and ltr Hq FUSA, file 319.1/401 (c), Subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports, dated 13 July 1944, the following report for this unit during period 1 August 1944 to 31 August 1944 is submitted.

A. Unit History.

1. Designation: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, VII Corps Artillery.
2. Date of organization: No change.
3. Place of Organization: No change.
4. Authorization: No change.
5. Personnel obtained from: No change.

B. Changes in organization: No change.

C. Strength: 1 August 25 Officers 111 Enlisted Men
31 August 27 Officers 111 Enlisted Men

D. Stations:

1. Vic La DONNEVILLIERE, FRANCE (WQT 348-468) from 1 August through 3 August 1944.
2. Vic La CHAPTIERE, FRANCE (WQT 421-282) from 4 August through 10 August 1944.
3. Vic CHASSEGUEY, FRANCE (WQT 483-115) from 11 August through 12 August 1944.
4. Vic ST. MAR-SUR COLMONT, FRANCE, (WQT 750-790) from 13 August through 14 August 1944.
5. Vic NEUILLY-Le VENDIN, FRANCE, (WQZ 017-912) 15 August 1944.
6. Vic LICHIERES La DOUCELLE, FRANCE, (WQZ 116-065) from 16 August through 24 August 1944.
7. Vic BOURAY SUR JUINE, FRANCE, (WQR 002-062) 25 August 1944.
8. Vic AUXONNETTE, FRANCE, (WQS 145-052) 26 August 1944 through 27 August 1944.
9. Vic COUPERT, FRANCE, (WQS 313-217) 28 August through 29 August 1944.
10. Vic LARIN, FRANCE, (WQS 645-528) 30 August through 31 August 1944.

E. Marches:

See D above and Narrative Report Appendix No. 1.

F. Campaigns: Operations in FRANCE.

G. Battles: See Narrative Report, Appendix No. 1.

H. Commanding General: Brigadier General WILLISTON B. PALMER, 0-12246.

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Headquarters VII Corps Artillery,
Subject: Action Against the Enemy,
Reports After, dated 6 September 1944.

I. Losses in action: None.

J. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action: None.

K. Photographs: None.

L. See Inclosures No. 1 through 5 inclusive.

[signature]
PALMER
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding

5 Incls:

Incl 1 - Appendix No. 1
Incl 2 - Unit Journal
Incl 3 - FA Periodic Reports
Incl 4 - Field Orders and Annexes
Incl 5 - Anti-Tank

not rec'd
Monthly
Combat Analysis

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Ltr fr Hq VII Corps Arty, file 319.1,
sub: "After Action Report", dated 6 Sep 44.

319.1 1st Ind K

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS, A.P.O. 307, U.S. Army, 10 SEP 1944

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (THRU: Commanding General, First U.S. Army, A.P.O. 230, U.S. Army).

C. A. A.

5 Incls: n/c 25 SEP 1944

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Fred M. Campbell

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS ARTILLERY
APO 307 U. S. Army

WBP/crj

3 August 1944

SUBJECT: Action Against the Enemy, Reports After.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Through Channels).

In compliance with Par 10 (c3) AR 345-105 and ltr Hq FUSA, file 319.1/401 (c), Subject:- Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports, dated 13 July 1944, the following report for this unit during period 1 July 1944 to 31 July 1944 is submitted.

A. Unit History.

1. Designation: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, VII Corps Artillery.
2. Date of organization: No change.
3. Place or organization: No change.
4. Authorization: No change.
5. Personnel obtained from: No change.

B. Changes in organization: None.

C. Strength: No change.

D. Stations:

1. BLOSVILLE, FRANCE, (WQT 367918) from 1 July 44 to 10 July 44.
2. CANTEPIE, FRANCE, (WQT 347832) from 10 July 44 to 16 July 44.
3. LE MESNIL VENERON, FRANCE (WQT 443754) from 16 July 44 to 28 July 44.
4. Le HARDICHON, FRANCE, (WQT 416606) from 28 July 44 to 30 July 44.
5. CERISY LA SALLE, FRANCE, (WQT 351520) from 30 July 44 to 31 July 44.
6. La DONVILLIERE, FRANCE, (WQT 348468) from 31 July 44 to date.

E. Marches (See Narrative report, Appendix No. 1).

F. Campaigns: Operations in FRANCE.

G. Battles (See Narrative report, Appendix No. 1).

H. Commanding General: Brigadier General WILLISTON B. PALMER, O-12246.

I. Losses in action: None.

J. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action: None.

K. Photographs: None.

L. See Inclosures No. 1 to 7 inclusive.

W. B. PALMER,
Brigadier General, U.S.Army,
Commanding.

Inclosures:
Incl # 1 - Appendix No. 1.
" # 2 - Unit Journal.
" # 3 - S-2 Journal and files.
" # 4 - S-3 Journal.
" # 5 - P.a. Periodic Reports.
" # 6 - Field Orders and Annexes.
" # 7 - Anti-Tank.

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Appendix No. 1 - Narrative Report of Marches, Battles, and Operations.

The period 1 July to 25 July 1944 was devoted to support of VII Corps attacks against hedgerow positions and prepared defenses at base of COTENTIN peninsula. To overcome this defense, artillery was centralized to a high degree. Massed fires, at times using as many as eight heavy battalions, were employed by the Corps Artillery to assist the infantry in overcoming organized resistance. During this phase a plan was developed, known as the Counter Flak Plan, in which the Corps Artillery, using organic Air OP's, counterbatteried enemy flak locations during periods of close air support. Prior to the start of an air bombardment the Corps Artillery fired a preparation on all known enemy flak batteries, and during the bombardment adjusted fire by Air OP on active flak batteries. Commanding General, VII Corps Artillery, coordinated the counter flak plan across the Army front on the occasion of the heavy bombardment effort to assist VII Corps breakthrough 25 July 1944. The plan appeared to have considerate merit and deserves additional study in conjunction with future close air support by heavy bombers.

From 25 July to 31 July, the exploitation phase, Corps Artillery was largely decentralized by attachment to Infantry and Armored Divisions in order to give continuous support to rapidly advancing units. Only one Group of three battalions (195 (8" H), 980 (155 G), and 981 (155 G)) remained under Corps control to handle long range interdiction and counterbattery fires.

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1st Ind. HEB/crj

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS ARTILLERY, APO 307, U. S. Army, 5 August 1944.

TO: Commanding General, VII Corps, APO 307, U. S. Army.

B.E.H.

VII MISCL 4259

319.1 2d Ind. K:CAA/wrd

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS, A.P.O. 307, U.S. Army,

9 AUG 1944

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C., (THRU: Commanding General, First U.S. Army, A.P.O. 230, U.S. Army).

C. A. A.

VII

5 Incls: n/c

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Enemy, Reports After, 7 July, 1944, Continued.

2. Campaign: Invasion of Western EUROPE, FRANCE.

3. Objective: Capture of CHERBOURG.

4. Commanding General: Brigadier General [illegible], Army.

5. Killed or Wounded in Action: None.

6. Personnel who died from shot received in Action: None.

7. Prisoners of war captured: Thirty-one.

PART II - OPERATIONS

Plans were completed prior to D day for the CG VII Corps Artillery to coordinate fires of the Naval Task force supporting the landing of the VII Corps. The control of naval fires was accomplished through the use of nine shore fire Control Parties working in a controlled CCR CCR radio net. Lt. Col. [illegible] Campbell, G-3 of VII Corps Artillery, acted as net control, and coordinated naval fire support, from the Bombardment Force Flagship USS TUSCALOOSA, from D day, 6 June, 1944, until 26 June, 1944.

CG VII Corps Artillery, landed on UTAH beach on D plus six with a small staff and established the Corps Artillery CP with CP VII Corps at ADJUDICATE in [illegible]. The first units of Corps Artillery to come ashore were 15th FA Obsn Bn (Less Btry B) and Btry A 980th FA Bn which initially were attached to 4th Inf Div. As the remainder of the Corps Artillery (172, 197, 196, 195, 957, 980 and [illegible] Bns) came ashore the Bns were attached to Divisions or grouped under the 108th and 109th FA Groups. HQ and HQ Btry VII Corps Arty came ashore 12 June 1944 and CG was established on 17 June 1944.

Use of Corps Artillery during the cutting of the CHERBOURG peninsula and the subsequent attack on CHERBOURG, may be divided into two phases. The first phase, that of cutting the peninsula, was characterized by decentralized use of Corps Artillery. As the divisions rotated, [illegible] moved, and attached to divisions. The second phase, that of the attack on CHERBOURG, was characterized by more centralized control. The Corps Artillery was grouped and given missions ing and general support missions, with the Corps Artillery [illegible] re-in operations. [illegible] sight was the work of the counter-battery section [illegible] artillery liaison sections and sound [illegible] reconnaissance [illegible] tion.

W. E. Palmer

Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

Inclosures:
Annex #1 - Unit Journal.
Annex #2 - G-2 Periodic reports and Counterbattery Plots.
Annex #3 - G-3 Journal.
Annex #4 - G-2 PI Photos.
Annex #5 - Fire Possibilities Charts.
Annex #6 - Anti-tank.

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VII Corps
After action reports
July-Aug 1944

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: SECRET :
:Auth: CG VII C:
:Init: M.M.S. :
:Dat: 9 Aug 44:

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
APO 307 U. S. Army

Copy 1 of 6 Copies

9 August 1944

SUBJECT: History of the VII Corps for the period of 1-31 July, 1944, Incl (Report after action against the enemy.)

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Through Commanding General, First United States Army.)

1. In compliance with letter 319.1/401 Headquarters, First United States Army, 13 July, 1944, subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports, the following report is submitted for the period of 1-31 July, 1944, Incl:

a.) ORIGINAL UNIT:

No change.

b.) CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

(1) Assigned and Attached Corps Troops as of 1 July, 1944:

1 TD Gp
4 CAV Gp Mecz
4 CIC Detch Pv
5 MRU (M)
6 ARMD Gp
VII Corps, Hq & Hq Co
VII Corps MP Pl
VII Corps Arty
10 CIC Det Pv
13 FA Obsn Bn
13 CIC Det
14 BOMB Disp Sq
18 FA Gp Mtz
24 CIC Det Pv
24 CAV Rcn Sq Mecz
50 SIGNAL Bn
50 MED Bn
60 AGF Band
70 Tk Bn
87 Cml Bn Mtz
109 AAA Gp
129 AAA Gun Bn M
142 FA Gp Mtz
153 FA Bn 8" Gun
172 FA Bn 4.5 Gun
179 FA Gp Mtz

Classification Changed to RESTRICTED 9 MAY 1946
by authority of AC of S, G-2, WDGS
by Ray M. Stroupe
RAY M. STROUPE
Capt., Inf

OCT 25 1944

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183 FA Bn 155 How
188 FA Gp Mtz
195 FA Bn 8" How
196 FA Bn 105 How
237 Engr C Bn
238 Engr C Bn
266 FA Bn 240 How
294 Engr C Bn
297 Engr C Bn
298 Engr C Bn
307 APU
376 AAA AW Bn M
377 AAA AW Bn M
385 QM TRK Co
413 AAA GUN Bn M
438 AAA AW Bn M
456 AAA AW Bn M
486 AAA AW Bn M
491 Collect Co
492 Collect Co
506 DEM Co 1 Pl
507 Engr Co LP
603 QM GRV R Co
612 Engr Co LE
634 TD Bn SP
649 CLEARING Co
663 Engr Top Co C
690 FA Bn 105 How
692 QM Bn
703 TD Bn SP
746 TK Bn
801 TD Bn T
899 TD Bn SP
951 FA Bn 155 How
957 FA Bn 155 How
980 FA Bn 155 How
981 FA Bn 155 How
988 Engr Co TB
991 Engr Co TB
1106 Engr C Gp
1120 Engr C Gp
2893 Engr TI TM C
3251 SIG Serv Co
3279 QM Serv Co
3891 QM Trk Co

3 ARMD DIV
MNT Bn 3 ARMD Div
Sup Bn 3 ARMD Div
3 ARMD Div Train
23 ARMD Engr Bn

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32 ARMD Regt
33 ARMD Regt
36 ARMD INF Regt
45 ARMD MED Bn
54 ARMD FA Bn
67 ARMD FA Bn
83 ARMD RCN Bn
143 ARMD SIG Co
391 ARMD FA Bn

4 INF Div
4 Engr C Bn
4 MED Bn
4 SIGNAL Co
4 QM Co
4 RCN TRP Mecz
4 DIV Arty
8 INF Regt
12 INF Regt
20 FA Bn 105 How
22 INF Regt
29 FA Bn 105 How
42 FA Bn 105 How
44 FA Bn 105 How
704 ORD LM Co

9 INF Div
9 MED Bn
9 SIGNAL Co
9 QM Co
9 RCN TRP Mecz
9 INF Div Band
9 DIV Arty
15 Engr C Bn
26 FA Bn 105 How
34 FA Bn 155 How
39 INF Regt
47 INF Regt
60 INF Regt
60 FA Bn 105 How
84 FA Bn 105 How
709 ORD LM Co

AUTH: 5 MRU (M), Hq VII Corps, 1 July, 1944.

(2) ATTACHMENTS:

331st Infantry attached to 4th Div (060800)

AUTH: Opns Memo 28, Hq VII Corps, 6 July, 1944

129th AAA Gun Bn (90mm) attached to VII Corps (071800)

AUTH: Order of FUSA, Opns Memo 31, Hq VII Corps, 7 July, 1944.

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24th Cav Gp attached to 9th Div (101930)

AUTH: Opns Memo 34, Hq VII Corps, 11 July, 1944.

991st FA Bn (155 Gun SP) is attached to VII Corps from First Army (131400B)

AUTH: Opns Memo 37, Hq VII Corps, 14 July, 1944.

30th Inf Div (743d Tk Bn, 823d TD Bn (T), and 531st AAA AW Bn attached) pass to control CG, VII Corps (152400B).
3d Armd Div (703d TD Bn (SP)) and 486th AAA AW Bn (SP) attached) pass to control CG, VII Corps (152400B).
1st Inf Div (103d AAA AW Bn, attached) pass to control CG, VII Corps (152400B).
2d Armd Div (195th AAA AW Bn (SP), and 702d TD Bn (SP) attached) pass to control VII Corps on order First Army.
4th Cav Rcn Sq (less Tp C) (150600B)
Cos B & D, 87th Cml Bn, (152100B)
Btry D, 129th AAA Gun Bn, (152100B)
Cos A & C, 87th Cml Bn revert to VII Corps control (152100B)
746th Tk Bn reverts to VII Corps control (152100B)
RCT 330 (less 2d Bn, 330th Inf) is attached to 9th Div (141530B).

AUTH: Opns Memo 38, Hq VII Corps, 15 July, 1944.

Remainder of 330th Inf is attached to 9th Inf Div (151330B).
Cos A & C, 87th Cml Bn and 746th Tk Bn revert to VII Corps control (161400B) instead of (152100B) as prescribed in par 3 b, Opns Memo 38, VII Corps, 15 July.

AUTH: Opns Memo 39, Hq VII Corps, 16 July, 1944.

CC "A" (less 3 tank companies) revert to control of 3rd Armd Div (161300B)
3 Tank Companies of CC "A" will remain with 9th Div until VII Corps objective has been seized.
CC "B" (less two tank companies) reverts to 3d Armd Div (161300B).
2 tank cos will remain with 30th Div until VII Corps objective has been seized.

The following units are attached VII Corps on order of FUSA:
474th AAA AW Bn (SP) from 49th AAA Brig (162100B).
Det 1501 Water Supply Co from 1128th Engr C Gp (170800B).
Det 181st Heavy Ponton Bn from 1111th Engr C Gp (170800B).
49th Engr C Bn from 1105th Engr C Gp (170800B).
501st L Pon Co from VIII Corps (170800B).
Det 86th Heavy Ponton Bn from 1103d Engr C Gp (170800B).
246th Engr C Bn from XIX Corps (162030B).

AUTH: Opns Memo 40, Hq VII Corps, 17 July, 1944.

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Remainder of CC "A" attached to 9th Inf Div reverts to 3rd Armd Div (172200B).
Remainder of CC "B" attached to 30th Inf Div reverts to 3rd Armd Div (172100B).
The following units have been attached to the VII Corps and are further attached as indicated:

49 Engr C Bn	1106th Engr Gp	(170800)
501st Engr L Pon Co	1106th Engr Gp	(170800)
Det 86th Engr Hv Pon Bn	1106th Engr Gp	(170800)
Det 181st Engr Hv Pon Bn	1120th Engr Gp	(170800)
Det 1501 Engr Water Sup Co	612 Engr L Equip Co	(170800)
474th AAA AW Bn	109th AAA Gp	(162130)
413th AAA AW Bn	1st TD Gp	(152400)
Hq & Hq Btry 32d FA Brig	Corps Arty Hq	(162400)
Hq & Hq Btry 79th FA Gp	Corps Arty Hq	(162400)
Hq & Hq Btry 258th FA Gp	Corps Arty Hq	(162400)
18th FA Bn (105 How)	30th Inf Div	(162400)
58th Armd FA Bn (105 How SP)	3d Armd Div	(162400)
62d Armd FA Bn (105 How SP)	Corps Arty Hq	(162400)
65th Armd FA Bn (105 How SP)	Corps Arty Hq	(162400)
87th Armd FA Bn (105 How SP)	2d Armd Div	(162400)
188th FA Bn (155 How)	18th FA Gp	(162400)
258th FA Bn (155 Gun SP)	258th FA Gp	(162400)
987th FA Bn (155 Gun SP)	258th FA Gp	(162400)
552d FA Bn (240 How)	7th FA Gp	(162400)
551st FA Bn (240 How)	7th FA Gp	(162400)
246th Engr C Bn	- - - - - - -	(162030)

AUTH: Opns Memo 41, Hq VII Corps, 18 July, 1944.

Following units are attached VII Corps on order FUSA:
Co A, 518th MP Bn (191540)
Co C, 503d MP Bn (191540)
4th Inf Div (70th Tk Bn, 377th AAA AW Bn, 801st TD Bn (T) atchd) (192330)

AUTH: Opns Memo 44, Hq VII Corps, 20 July, 1944.

Btry B, 3d FA Obsn Bn is attached VII Corps on order FUSA (201950)
92d Cml Bn (less one company) is attached VII Corps on order XIX Corps and further attached 30th Div, effective 18 July 1944.

AUTH: Opns Memo 45, Hq VII Corps, 22 July 1944.

188th FA Bn (155 How) attached to 1st Inf Div (271200B).
CC "B" will revert to control 3d Armd Div effective 29 July on order CG, VII Corps.
987th FA Bn (155 Gun (SP)) is attached to 2d Armd Div (281800B).
Btries A & B, 474th AAA AW Bn (SP) are attached to 2d Armd Div (281800B).
196th FA Bn, 690th FA Bn, and 957th FA Bn are relieved from attachment to 9th Inf Div and revert to control of VII Corps.

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AUTH: Opns Memo 51, Hq VII Corps, 29 July, 1944.

The following units pass to control of 1st Inf Div effective 302400B:
4th Cav Gp Hq
Combat Command BOUDINOT, 3d Armd Div
83 Rcn Bn, 3d Armd Div
188 FA Gp
183 FA Bn (155 How)
172 FA Bn (4.5 Gun)
951 FA Bn (155 How)
690 FA Bn (105 How)

AUTH: Opns Memo 53, Hq VII Corps, 31 July, 1944.

4th Cav Rcn Sq relieved from attachment to 1st Inf Div and attached to 4th Inf Div effective 291200B.

AUTH: Opns Memo 53, Hq VII Corps, 31 July, 1944, (Par 7 d).

(3) LOSSES:

Relieved and detached units;

1st Bn 66th Armd Regt is relieved from attachment to 83d Div and will revert to control 2d Armd Div (051500).

AUTH: Opns Memo 27, Hq VII Corps, 4 July, 1944.

744th Tk Bn (L) passed to control of V Corps (041800).

AUTH: Opns Memo 28, Hq VII Corps, 6 July, 1944.

258th FA Bn (155 G SP) is relieved from attachment VII Corps and attached XIX Corps effective 081800 on order of First Army.
AUTH: Opns Memo 32, Hq VII Corps, 8 July, 1944.

113th Cav Rcn Gp (less Tp B, 125th Cav Rcn Sq) is relieved from attachment to 9th Div and reverts to XIX Corps (102000 by order of First Army).
AUTH: Opns Memo 34, Hq VII Corps, 11 July, 1944.

Co A, 634th TD Bn is detached from 9th Div and reverts to 634th TD Bn (131800B).
Co C, 634th TD Bn is detached from 4th Div and reverts to 634th TD Bn (132400B).
AUTH: Opns Memo 37, Hq VII Corps, 14 July, 1944.

83d Inf Div (802d TD Bn (T) and 453d AAA AW Bn attached) pass to control CG, VIII Corps (152400B).
4th Inf Div (70th Tk Bn, 377th AAA AW Bn and 801st TD Bn (T), attached) pass to control VIII Corps (152400B).
AUTH: Opns Memo 38, Hq VII Corps, 15 July, 1944.

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CC "A" (less 3 tank companies) revert to control of 3d Armd Div (161300B).

3 Tank companies of CC "A" will remain with 9th Div until VII Corps objective has been seized.

CC "B" (less 2 tank companies) reverts to control of 3rd Armd Div (161300B). 2 tank cos will remain with 30th Div until VII Corps has seized objective.

AUTH: Opns Memo 40, Hq VII Corps, 17 July 1944.

RCT 330 (24th Cav Rcn Sq Atchd) is relieved from 9th Div and reverts to control of VIII Corps at 172400. Upon completion of present mission, 24th Cav Rcn Sq reverts to control VII Corps and moves to vic Les Omonds (4773).

Remainder of CC "B" attached to 30th Div reverts to 3rd Armd Div (172100).

Remainder of CC "A" attached to 9th Div reverts to 3rd Armd Div (172200).

Following units have been detached from VII Corps and are attached as indicated:

153d FA Bn (8" Gun)(less Btry B)	XIX Corps	(162400)
Btry B, 153d FA Bn (8" Gun)	V Corps	(162400)
Hq & Hq Btry 179th FA Gp	XIX Corps	(162400)

AUTH: Opns Memo 41, Hq VII Corps, 18 July, 1944.

The following units are relieved from attachment to VII Corps effective 17 July 1944:

153d FA Bn (8" Gun)
179th FA Gp

AUTH: Tr Asgmt, No. 9 (ADM), Hq VII Corps, 22 July 1944.

The following units pass to command of XIX Corps, 28 July, by order of First Army at a time to be announced later:

(1) 30th Infantry Division.
(2) CC "A", 2d Armored Division.
(3) RCT 22, 4th Infantry Division.

AUTH: Opns Memo 51, Hq VII Corps, 29 July 1944.

The following units are relieved from attachment to VII Corps and are attached to XIX Corps on order of FUSA (291500):

(1) 258th FA Gp, Hq & Hq Btry.
(2) 258th FA Bn (155 G, SP).
(3) 991st FA Bn (155 G, SP).
(4) 18th FA Bn.

196th FA Bn relieved from attachment VII Corps and attached V Corps (291500) on order of FUSA.

32d FA Brig, Hq & Hq Btry relieved from attachment VII Corps and reverts to First Army on order of FUSA (300600).

Btry B, 3d FA Obsn Bn is relieved from attachment to VII Corps and is attached to VIII Corps on order of FUSA (291752).

AUTH: Opns Memo 52, Hq VII Corps, 30 July 1944.

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Following Units are relieved from attachment VII Corps and further attached as indicated:

a. 129th AAA Gun Bn attached to 49th AAA Gp effective 301200B.
b. 79th FA Gp, Hq & Hq Btry, 266th FA Bn, 551 FA Bn, 552 FA Bn, attached to FUSA effective 291200B.
c. 246 Engr C Bn and 296 Engr C Bn attached to FUSA effective 272400B.
d. 4th Cav Rcn Sq relieved from attachment 1st Inf Div and attached to 4th Infantry Div effective 291200B.

AUTH: Opns Memo 53, Hq VII Corps, 31 July, 1944.

c.) STRENGTH:

(1) Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 1 July, 1944: 84 officers; 13 warrant officers; 267 enlisted men.
Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 31 July, 1944: 89 officers; 14 warrant officers; 313 enlisted men.
Net gain for period: 4 officers; 1 warrant officer; 46 enlisted men.
(2) VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 1 July, 1944: 53,535*
VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 31 July, 1944: 70,190*
Net gain for period: 16,555.

AUTH: Morning Reports of 5 Machine Records Units, VII Corps, U.S. Army for above dates of July, 1944.

NOTE: *Does not include units attached for operations only.

d.) STATIONS:

CPs of Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army:

1 July: Left Valognes, France.
1 July: Arrived Le Bout de la Ville (Blosville).
10 July: Left Le Bout de la Ville (Blosville).
10 July: Arrived Vic Carentan (372827).
16 July: Left Vic Carentan (372827).
16 July: Arrived Goucherie.
29 July: Left Goucherie.
29 July: Arrived La Barberie (Marigny).
31 July: Left La Barberie (Marigny).
31 July: Arrived St. Martin de Cennily.

e.) CAMPAIGNS:

(1) Drive south from Cotentin Peninsula.
(2) Duration: 1 July, 1944 to 31 July, 1944 (not completed).
(3) To destroy the enemy on its front in conjunction with VIII Corps, U.S. Army.

AUTH: Field Orders Nos. 4, 5, 6, VII Corps, U.S. Army, July, 1944.

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f.) BATTLES:

See accompanying narrative, Appendix #1.

g.) COMMANDING OFFICERS:

(1) VII Corps Commander: Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins.
(2) 1 Inf Div: Maj Gen Clarence R. Huebner.
(3) 2 Armd Div: Maj Gen Edward H. Brooks.
(4) 3 Armd Div: Maj Gen Leroy H. Watson.
(5) 4 Inf Div: Maj Gen Raymond O. Barton.
(6) 9 Inf Div: Maj Gen Manton S. Eddy.
(7) 30 Inf Div: Maj Gen Leland H. Hobbs.
(8) 83 Inf Div: Maj Gen Robert C. Macon.
(9) Corps Artillery: Brig Gen Williston B. Palmer.

AUTH: Field Order No. 6, VII Corps, U.S. Army, 20 July, 1944.

h.) LOSSES IN ACTION:

(1) Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army:

Killed in action: None.
Wounded in action: Pvt Thomas A. McCabe, Hq Co VII Corps, 4 July, 1944.
Maj Samuel M. Swearingin, Inf, TD fr FUSA, 6 July, 1944.
1st Lt Charles I. Balcer, Inf, 31 July, 1944.

AUTH: Morning Reports of Hq Co, VII Corps for July, 1944.

(2) VII Corps, U.S. Army:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	TOTAL
Officers	126	389	15	530
Enlisted Men	1461	6926	422	8809
Grand Total	1587	7315	437	9339

AUTH: 5 Machine Records Unit, Hq VII Corps, as of 31 July, 1944.
(Note: Casualty figures do not include troops attached for operations only).

i.) FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:

(1) Award of Oak Leaf Cluster to D.S.M.:

Awarded to Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins by Gen Dwight D. Eisenhower at First United States Army Headquarters, Normandy, France, 20 July, 1944.

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(2) Award of Silver Star Medal:

Under provisions of AR 600-45 and Circular 66, FUSA, dated 18 May 1944, the silver star medal is awarded for gallantry in action to COLONEL MASON J. YOUNG, 03788, Corps of Engineers, Hq VII Corps, U.S.A., for gallantry and disregard of personal safety displayed by this officer during the assault on the French coast 6 June 1944 which reflects highest credit upon himself and the armed services of the United States. Entered the military service from New Hampshire.

AUTH: G.O. 33, VII Corps, U.S. Army, 3 July 1944.

Under provisions of AR 600-45 and Circular 66, FUSA, dated 18 May 1944, the silver star medal is awarded the following named officer for gallantry in action in Normandy, France on 22 June 1944:
COLONEL ARTHUR H. LUSE 07537, Ordnance, Hq VII Corps, U.S.A. The courage, coolness and complete personal disregard for personal safety displayed by this officer reflects the highest credit upon himself and the armed services of the United States. Entered the military services from Pennsylvania.

AUTH: G.O. 36, VII Corps, U.S. Army, 9 July, 1944.

(3) Award of Silver Star Medal:
Award of Bronze Star Medal:(*)

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 and Circular 66, FUSA, dated 18 May 1944, the silver star medal is awarded the following named officers and enlisted men for gallantry in action in France:
STAFF SERGEANT BARTHOLOMEW R. SHEA 20738747, Medical Detachment, Medical Detachment Hq Co VII Corps, U.S.A., for gallantry in action and disregard for personal safety displayed by Staff Sergeant Shea on 22 June 1944 during operations on the Cherbourg Peninsula which reflects highest credit upon himself and the armed services of the United States. Entered the military services from Nebraska.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOHN E. LAMPHERE 11070242, INFANTRY, Hq Co VII Corps, U.S.A., for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service on 22 June 1944 in connection with military operations against the enemy on the Cherbourg Peninsula, France. Entered the military services from Rhode Island. (*Awarded Bronze Star Medal).

AUTH: G.O. 40, VII Corps, U.S. Army, 27 July, 1944.

(4) Award of Bronze Star Medal:

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, dated 22 September 1943 as amended, and Circular No. 66, Headquarters First United States Army, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following named officers, War Department, attached VII Corps:

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COLONEL DOUGLAS V. JOHNSON, 015072, General Staff Corps, U.S. Army, for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 8 May 1944 to 20 July 1944 in connection with military operations against the enemy in England and France. Entered the military services from Virginia.

COLONEL CHARLES F. HOWARD 017270, General Staff Corps, United States Army, **** **** Entered the military services from Missouri.

COLONEL GRAYDON C. ESSMANN 019242, General Staff Corps, United States Army, **** **** Entered the military services from Missouri.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILLIAM M. CONNOR, Jr 020137, General Staff Corps, U.S. Army **** **** Entered the military services from South Carolina.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL PAUL J. LONG 021220, General Staff Corps, U.S. Army, **** **** Entered the military services from Pennsylvania. (All same citation).

AUTH: G.O. 39, VII Corps, U.S. Army, 21 July 1944.

(5) 146 Purple Heart Medals issued by VII Corps Surgeon; 40 to be issued for period 1-31 July, 1944.

AUTH: Records of VII Corps Surgeon.

j.) PHOTOGRAPHS:

(1) See Inclosure #16.
(2) (Additional photographs covering the period of this report will be submitted as received from Army Pictorial Service.)

For the Commanding General:

Lawton Butler

APPENDICIES:

1. Narrative.
2. Staff List.
3. Casualty and PW List as given by VII Corps, G-1 Section.

INCLOSURES:

1. Field Orders.
2. Administrative Orders.
3. Field Artillery Periodic Reports.
4. G-3 Sitreps (Situation Reports).
5. G-3 Periodic Reports.
6. G-3 Operations Memoranda.
7. G-3 Journals.
8. G-3 Operations, Divisional Units.
9. G-2 Intelligence Reports.
10. G-2 Periodic Reports.
11. G-2 Daily MII Reports.
12. G-2 Journals.
13. G-2 Operations, Divisional Units.
14. G-2 PWI Reports.
15. Overlays.
16. Photographs.
17. Corps Troops' Reports.

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Date: 6 Aug. 44

THE HISTORY OF VII CORPS, U.S. ARMY, COVERING OPERATIONS IN NORMANDY, FRANCE, FROM 1 - 31 JULY, 1944.

I----- The Drive South from the Peninsula (2-9 July).

II----- Days of Hedgerow Fighting (10-23 July).

III----- Operation "Cobra"---The Break-through (24-31 July)

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APPENDIX A

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THE DRIVE SOUTH FROM THE PENINSULA

Following the successful completion of the Cherbourg campaign and the end of resistance in the Cap de la Hague area, the VII Corps units rapidly began their movement to the south. The 4th Division was relieved by the 101st Airborne of guard in Cherbourg and assembled in the vicinity of Gourbesville, with the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron detached and passing to control of the Para-troopers. The 4th received orders, 30 June, to be prepared to move south and shoved off for the area below Carentan. The 9th moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of les Pieux.

Meanwhile the 83rd Division, Major General Robert C. Macon, commanding, which had been in the front lines in the VIII Corps sector, reverted to VII Corps control on 2 July. Their activity had consisted of active patrolling and regroup-ing for the next operation which was to see them committed to battle for the first time when the VII Corps took over a part of the southern front.

During the move south to the base of the peninsula the Corps troops exper--ienced a brief respite from battle after four weeks of sanguinary fighting, and plans were mapped for the second major phase of the continental campaign----the southern drive.

In the area southwest of Carentan limited enemy withdrawals had been made, but on the whole he was pushed back and held by the VIII Corps. Allied pre-occupation with the advance in Cherbourg permitted the Germans in this area to recover to some extent from their defeats (St. Sauveur and in the peninsula) and to offer stiffening resistance to any attempt to advance southward.

Across the whole Allied front----from the sea on the west flank to Caen on the east----where the enemy had just been pushed across the Odon, he was on the defensive, and was committing many of his best units, SS and Army, in an attempt to keep us from bursting out the bulge in his lines.

From reports received it was now clear that the French resistance movement had made a considerable contribution to the invasion plan, having fostered wide-spread sabotage, including the cutting of rail and other communications. Tele-phone and cable wires were disrupted, rails and bridges rendered unserviceable, canals and barges sabotaged as also were war plants, and in one specific incident 46 locomotives were destroyed by the Maquis. Resistance activities had good results, not only in tying down the enemy's forces, but also in hindering to some extent the movement of both troops and supplies into the Normandy battle area.

Field Order, No. 4, dated 3 July, 1944, directed that the Corps' next operation would open, appropriately enough, on the 4th of July. The 83rd Divi-sion was to inaugurate the attack by jumping off at 0445, and pushing its attack to the south along the line Sainteny - le Ruet and eliminate the enemy in the area of les Baleries - le Mesnil - le Bus in order to provide maneuver room for subsequent operations. If light opposition was encountered the drive was to continue to the Taute River.

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The 4th Division was to move by 5 July into the zone of action, west of the general line Meautis - les Forges, prepared to strike southwest the next day with the 9th Division held in reserve due to the limits of the Corps boundary. The main effort of the 4th was to be directed toward the right (west) and thence southward in conjunction with the 83rd. The Corps objective was the ridge line just north of the Soulle River.

The principal water course of this new zone of operations was the Taute River cutting diagonally across the front. It flows north by Carentan and widens out from 20 to 200 feet in its last 25 kilometers. Some 12 to 15 kilometers inland the river is joined by three tributaries which together with the main stream form marshy bottomlands across much of the area. This, together with the Prairies Marecageuses de Gorges, north and west, channelized the drive of the VII Corps into a low narrow isthmus, some three or four kilometers wide.

Thus, although at a distinct numerical disadvantage in opposing the VII Corps' southern thrust, the enemy was able to more than offset this drive by his use of this limited terrain, which small units could effectively hold up greatly superior forces in the swampy, inundated country south of Carentan. Further advantage was added to the defense by the many hedgerows and small fields which served as natural barriers, restricting mechanized units to well defined corridors of approach, and offering ideal cover and concealment for delaying action.

In this marsh and bocage country continued early morning cloudy and showery weather allowed the enemy considerable freedom of movement of troops and supplies, and greatly reduced the effectiveness of our air superiority and artillery.

The LXXXIV Corps, remnants of the 77th, 91st and 243rd Infantry Divisions able to escape south before the peninsula was cut off, and the 265th Infantry Division were manning the enemy line from the west coast to Carentan when the VIII Corps started the southern offensive on 3 July. Elements of the II Parachute Corps (275th, 353rd, remnants of the 352nd and 3rd Parachute Divisions) were east of the Taute and the 266th Division reported in the area southwest of Periers. The 277th Division was in a rear area, available to either the LXXXIV or the II Parachute Corps.

Allied intelligence reports indicated that the German Seventh Army was continuing its concentration with the object of preventing Allied exploitation of the established beachhead, and in particular of preventing the advance south of the line Coutances - St. Lo - Caen.

The VIII Corps was to be initially supported by 4th Division artillery on 3 July and the attack by the 83rd Division on the next day was planned to make maneuver room for the 4th's entry into the drive on the VII's right flank, 6 July.

Limited progress was made by the 83rd Division with the 802nd TD Bn (T), 453rd AAA (AW) Bn, 746th Tank Bn, and Companies A and C of the 87th Chemical Bn attached, in launching the VII Corps' attack on the 4th of July. Organized,

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determined resistance, consisting of artillery, well sited automatic weapons and mortars was encountered in the vicinity of Culot. The 331st Infantry Regiment was able to advance only 200 yards in 40 minutes as machine guns dug in along the fortified hedges caused heavy casualties. Losses among officers were especially high and Col. Barndollar, commanding the 331st was killed. Division casualties were estimated at 300.

However, when the enemy counterattacked he was repulsed and the slight gains made earlier in the day were held by the Division troops.

Again on 5 July the Division could make only limited gains against strong resistance and again the Germans counterattacked. The 329th and 330th Infantry regiments made some progress in the wewt during the day. The 1st Battalion of the 331st Infantry Regiment attempted the task of crossing the inundated area, roughly between les Baleries and Sainteny, and to knock out the enemy strong points north and northwest of les Forges, but after meeting with some success in the initial advance of their southwesterly push, were driven back in the early evening more than 1000 yards to the approximate lines they held at 1100.

The heavy barrage laid down by our artillery had a telling effect upon the enemy from reports of the prisoners of war who were taken, some of whom surrendered because they said they could not stand the terrific shelling of Brig-Gen. Williston B. Palmer's Corps Artillery. Several enemy officer prisoners of war stated that our artillery was heaviest and most effective they had ever encountered, including that in Russia. Other prisoners of war made similiar statements.

An interesting incident was the registering of a direct hit on a German CP at 30,000 yards. Using high performance observation the 153d Field Artillery Battalion of 8 inch guns, fired 5@ rounds and the pilot reported; one hit; one burst 15 yards short of the target; one 20 yards over, and three within 10 feet of the farmhouse. On the completion of the artillery mission the aircraft set afire an escaping command car.

After repulsing a counter attack shortly after midnight (5-6 July) and which was continued during the hours of darkness and again renewed at daylight, supported by tanks, the 83d was held in position south of La Madeline River pending a coordinated attack with the 4th Division at 1200. The 12th Infantry of the 4th jumped off from south of Le Rivage at 0930 in a column of battalions following an aerial bombardment, crossed the Baupte-Carentan Roads, and advanced against slight opposition at first. However when the main drive opened gene ally astride the Carentan Periers Road, accurate automatic weapons and mortar fire reduced the Corps advance to limited gains.

Mines and booby traps were encountered as the enemy continued his hedge row to hedge row resistance. Felled trees were used as blocks on side roads leading to the Carentan-Periers Highway, covered by T mines. The 2d Battalion of the 38th SS Pz Gr Regiment made its appearence, opposing the 83rd's advance.

During the night of the 6-7 July the 1st and 2d Battalions of the 8th Infantry (4th Division) attempted to outflank, from the north, enemy positions in the area Neuville-Raffoville-Forges by crossing the inundated area southwest of les Baleries.

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Heavy automatic weapons fire held in check the 1st Bn but the 2d succeded in pushing across under the cover of darkness. After daylight the position was again found to be untenable due to concentrated enemy fire and the battalion withdrew with heavy casualties to their original lines. More than 100 wounded were counted. The 12th Infantry made no progress in its drive toward the creek line southwest of Neuville.

In the 83d Division sector two enemy attacks were repulsed. The first German wave was rolled back by the 330th Infantry early in the morning. The 329th and 331st renewed their attack toward the right. Very hard fighting marked the advance through the day. The checker board country of small fields bordered by hedges with ditches on both sides afforded the enemy excellent defensive positions which he used to good advantage to deliver accurate artillery, automatic weapons and mortar fire. Nevertheless the Infantrymen made progress and in the afternoon and early evening registered substantial gains on the east flank.

Some progress was made on the right in seizing the high ground east of Sainteny, but the attacking forces were unable to penetrate south of the swamp in front of the high ground to the northwest of the town where the enemy held a series of strong points.

When tanks paced our infantry attack they were permitted to pass and the troops following were fired upon, allowing the next enemy line of defense to engage the tanks.

On 8 July the 331st of the 83d Division repelled a counter attack of the 2d Battalion of the 2d SS Pz Division, destroying four tanks with artillery fire. Later enemy patrols of infantry-tank teams -------15-30 men to a vehicle-----attempted to probe along the Division front to find "soft spots". The enemy attack that followed was repulsed by the 330th, but in turn this Regiment's offensive failed to produce any substantial gain.

The 329th Infantry passed to Corps reserve and was passed thru by the 22d, which attacked in a column of battalions in order 2-1-3. The 8th also attacked in similiar formation (3-2-1) when the 4th Division jumped off at 1000. It encountered small arms fire and mines, including "S" type. Small gains were made with the 8th taking part of its limited objective in the vicinity of Au Pretre and occupying Raffouville and les Baleries.

At 1600 that afternoon the largest enemy troop movement since D-day was reported moving northwest in many small convoys over various secondary roads in the vicinity southeast of Tessy sur Vire; west from Bire-Bocage, and north and west thru Vire. Intelligence was also received that the Pz "Lehr" (130th) Division was moving west and south to avoid our artillery fire. In addition to tanks, infantry and artillery were reported moving west and north thru Vire.

Operations Memo, No. 32, (confirming verbal order of the Commanding General) announced the Corps' boundries were to be enlarged to the east, effective 10 July to allow the employment of the 9th Division; General Eddy's troops started the move to occupy their position on the Corps' enlarged left flank, next to the XIX Corps. The 4th was to continue its attack on Periers by a flanking movement from the east. The 83d was to continue pushing its attack to seize objectives on the north bank of the Taute, making its principal effort east of Sainteny in conjunction with the 4th's attack.

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Sainteny was captured by the 331st Infantry when this unit of the 83rd and, the 330th renewed the attack on 9 July, and made limited gains of about 700 yards. The enemy continued to defend his position tenaciously from individual and two-man foxholes tunneled into hedgerows which were often connected by communication trenches. Counterattacks were also delivered whenever possible, if only by a harassing force in local engagements.

The 8th and 22nd renewed their attack at 0800 and 0830 respectively on 9 July, meeting stiffening resistance, and the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment was committed in the afternoon to fill the gap between the 8th and 22nd and reduce enemy positions between the two Regiments. Limited gains were made in the central sector, but the progress although steady was extremely slow. The enemy was well dug in, especially along the Periers-Carentan Road area.

For a week the enemy had attempted to defend his lines by fighting for each hedge and field and launching piecemeal counterattacks of infantry-tank teams from all available forces.

Against this stand the VII Corps was forced to fight its way down a causeway which was covered by a concentration of accurate small arms and mortar fire from well organized strong points. In six days only limited gains were made by the American troops in extremely bitter fighting. During this period the Corps sustained a total of 4,800 casualties (400 killed, 3500 wounded and 900 missing and captured) based on approximate figures from G-1 reports, while taking some 2500 prisoners (many of whom were the last remnants from Cotentin Peninsula roundup) and inflicting heavy killed and wounded casualties on the enemy.

This battle at the base of the peninsula had been purely an infantry and artillery duel. The enemy was badly outgunned, but his defense was to a great extent aided by the terrain----the numerous streams and marshes----which tend to break up any large scale attacks into a series of local engagements.

On the whole the past week (3-9 July) had seen the enemy at one end of the Allied front stretch to the limit in his attempt to withstand our drive down the base of the Cotentin Peninsula. At no point across this isthmus was he able to gain the initiative. Newly arrived units, or those shuffled from one sector to another, were committed piecemeal and he had no mobile reserve as an effective striking force.

A prisoner of war taken by the 4th Division who came from Germany two weeks ago to join the 6th Parachute Regiment stated: "I crossed the German border into France thru Metz two weeks ago. My journey to Periers-Carentan took me 12 days. Railway lines are completely broken up by air attacks. Lines of communication are completely disorganized. Troops on furlough had to be transported by wood burning trucks".

It was also during this period that a shake-up occurred in the German High Command with Field Marshal Gunther von Kluge, an able artilleryman, who made his reputation in defensive fighting, replacing Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt as commander of Army Group West.

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Another significant fact of shakiness within the enemy's ranks was the announcement that Lt. Gen. Paul Hausser had replaced General Friedrich Dollman as commander of the Seventh Army, marking the first time an SS officer had been elevated to such a command. Gen. Dollman was killed in a raid by Typhoon aircraft on his headquarters.

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BATTLE CASUALTIES AND ENEMY PRISONER OF WAR STATISTICS---VII CORPS, 6 JUNE-1 JULY.
Incl. all Corps troops (assigned, attached, & attached for operations only)

UNIT	Killed	Wounded	Missing	Captured	Total
4th Division	844	3814	788	6	5452
9th Division	301	2061	76		2438
79th Division.....	240	1896	240		2376
90th Division.....	386	1979	34		2399
82nd A/B Division.....	457	1440	2571	12	4480
101st A/B Division.....	546	2217	1907		4670
Corps Troops.....	37	157	49	61	304
Totals	2811	13564	5665	79	22119

Enemy Prisoners of war Taken by Corps:

Evacuated to U.K. 28,777
At ESB Inclosure. 405
29,182

Total No. PWs Taken (G-1 report) as of 1 July---------- 39,042

AUTH: G-1 Reports, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army.

BATTLE CASUALTIES AND ENEMY PRISONER OF WAR STATISTICS-----VII CORPS, 2-9 JULY

UNIT	Killed	Wounded	Missing	Captured	Total
4th Division	136	762	136		1034
83rd Division	304	2566	792	1	3663
9th Division	1				1
Corps Troops	19	108	3		130
Totals	460	3436	931	1	4828

Enemy Prisoners of War Taken by Corps:

Evacuated to U.K. 36,102
At ESB Inclosure. 176
36,278

Total No. PWs Taken (G-1 report) as of 9 July ---------- 41,540

BATTLE CASUALTIES AND ENEMY PRISONER OF WAR STATISTICS-----VII CORPS, 6 June-9 July

UNIT	Killed	Wounded	Missing	Captured	Total
4th Div, to date	980	4576	824	6	6386
9th Div, to date	302	2061	76		2439
83rd Div, to date	304	2566	792		3663
Corps Troops	56	265	52		373
All Troops	3271	17000	6596	80	26947

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THE DRIVE SOUTH FROM THE PENINSULA----- II

Days of Hedgerow Fighting

Covering that period of the VII Corps, U.S. Army history under Field Order No. 5, from 10 to 23 July, 1944, including the fighting south of Carentan up to the start of operation "Cobra".

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On 9 July, the day that Caen fell to the British forces at the eastern extremity of the Allied front, Field Order No. 5 was issued by General Collins. The Corps with an enlarged zone of action which would permit the employment of the 9th Division, was to continue its attack to the south early on 10 July in a formation of Divisions abreast, 4th, 83rd and 9th in order from right to left, the line of departure being the present front lines (roughly the line Raffoville, Sainteny, le Port, la Briandeire, le Mesnil-Angot) with the objective the ridge line about 3,000 yards south and parallel to the Coutances - St. Lo road.

With the enemy on the defensive the plan was to break thru his forward lines and mop up the area north of la Busnier and northeast to south of la Hetourdiere in the vicinity of le Grimbert, drive on to St. Lo, take the city and push toward the more open country ahead where armored units could be more effectively employed.

The 4th Division's initial attack was to carry the high ground in the vicinity of Periers, then strike south across the Taute River and seize objectives within its zone of action in the area south of the Coutances - St. Lo Highway. Cutting the Lessay - St. Lo Road was the primary mission of the 9th Division push which would carry the Division westward and then south, mopping up Tribehou in the first stage of the attack. The 83rd Division was to attack south within its zone of action, with the initial effort on the right.

Meanwhile General Eddy's 9th Division was assembling, preparatory to the 10 July attack. The enemy line in their new zone ran in an arc from le Port on the west, around the peninsula between the Taute and the Canal de Vire and eastward to the le Desert area. Strong points were reported to be established in the peninsula and the Forest Bois du Hommet.

Reinforced by the attachment of Combat Command "A" of the 3rd Armored Division, Brigadier General Doyle O. Hickey commanding, the 9th attacked at 0800 when the 39th Infantry began moving forward slowly against small arms, machine gun and some mortar fire. Enemy artillery by comparison was light. The 2nd Battalion received very heavy fire and the right flank was further held up by mines and booby traps which cut the advance to about 1000 yards northeast of le Desert. Although the 3rd Battalion of the 47th Infantry was held in reserve the other two Regimental units pushed ahead to reach objectives against small arms and mortar fire. At 0600 the 60th Regiment closed in the assembly area near Goucherie, and struck with the 1st and 2nd Battalions abreast. They soon met strong resistance of the typical hedgerow type, supported by a few tanks which had become SOP with the enemy, but made a penetration by noon to the eastern edge of Grainges.

Troops of the 113th Cavalry Group maintained contact between the 39th and 120th Infantry (XIX Corps) on the left flank in a coordinated thrust in the afternoon. Excellent progress was made to the west and southwest; the 60th overran the village of Haut-Verney and sent patrols against strongly held Tribehou; the 47th Infantry captured le-Mesnil-Angot and advanced one battalion

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to within 1000 yards of the eastern edge of Bois du Hommet, and the 39th entered le Desert, thus virtually clearing the enemy from the neck of land north from le Mesnil-Angot to Canal de Vire et la Taute, southwest of St. Jean de Daye, a gain of more than 3000 yards.

Although air support was "on call" for the ground forces cloudy weather greatly restricted flying activity as the elements continued to favor the defenders. The 83rd Division pushed off at 0830 with the 331st Infantry making the opening assault. The 330th was held up by strong points and the employment of tanks---set up directly in front of the Regiment. The enemy continued his hedgerow defensive tactics in this "bottle neck" middle zone and used tanks in hull-down positions at strategic points for added fire support, south of la Corbinerie. There was relatively little change in the front line with the Division being held up along the line thru Bois Grimot, on the right of the Divisional zone, which the 331st advanced to in the forenoon, and la Corbinerie. The enemy used hasty defensive positions to deliver intense small arms and accurate mortar fire in waging his delaying action.

The 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion with a battery of 90mm antiaircraft guns attached was emplaced along the Periers-Carentan Road awaiting a tank attack of some 50 enemy vehicles, reported moving from St. Lo. The 4th Division secured the important crossroad at les Forges and the road running northwest.

On the right flank the 4th Division attacked at 0830. The 8th Infantry advanced slowly while the 22nd, encountering lighter opposition continued to push ahead although the Germans continued to resist stubbornly. The 1st Battalion of the 12th which was held in reserve, was committed at 1415 to fill the gap between the 8th and 22nd and also reduce enemy resistance between the two Regiments, and gained limited objectives, including the village of Aubries and in the vicinity of les Maugerie. A considerable number of enemy were liquidated by an 8th Infantry maneuver south and east of Hlehou which forced a German unit to withdraw across the inundation directly in the field of fire of the 12th's 1st Battalion.

Patrols sent into Tribehou at the edge of the town observed the movement of an undetermined number of tanks in the weeds. All night the enemy harassed the 9th Division with small groups of tanks and infantry firing promiscuously. A few penetrations were made at some points along the line. The Division reported two, and possibly three Mark IV's knocked out.

The 4th Division continued its drive leading to the high ground in the vicinity of Periers at 0900 (11 July) in conjunction with the 83rd on the left. The 8th Infantry advanced west against small opposition and mopped up resistance northwest and west of Sainteny to the Corps' boundary. The renewed effort of the 83rd opened on time with two battalions of the 329th passing through the 331st Infantry. Before the 9th Division could renew the push south the enemy opened a counterattack on the Corps' left flank.

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Arrival of units of the 130th Panzer Division ("Lehr") may have been the signal for SS General Hausser to produce immediate and spectacular results in an effort to relieve continued ebbing Nazi fortunes in the west, for mechanized elements of the Pz "Lehr" were committed upon arrival in a tank attack that was apparently poorly coordinated with supporting troops and launched in hasty, haphazard fashion.

Panzer "Lehr" in conjunction with other ground units had the mission of recapturing le Desert, St. Jean de Daye in a counterattack calculated to regain Isigny as the main objective as was indicated by a captured document and subsequent operations.

In the enemy's thrust that opened at 0500, and which was mainly directed against the 39th Infantry's front up the road from les Champs de Losque, the Germans temporarily succeeded in gaining the initiative. The 39th in order to absorb the thrust was forced to withdraw from le Desert and yield some 500 to 600 yards. Of the estimated 40 tanks that were driving ahead of the foot troops ten broke through the 39th's line and were stalked by infantrymen, the 3rd Armored Division's Combat Command A, and were also under attack by artillery, tank destroyers and dive bombers.

The Air Force flew three missions during the day despite the weather, and one flight reported destruction of 13 tanks and 2 half tracks out of a total of 40 vehicles spotted; another, excellent results on organized positions with hits on fuel and ammunition dumps, and the third near misses on 12 tanks.

On the Corps' left the enemy was able to drive a wedge between the 39th and 47th near the regimental boundaries in the vicinity of la Haye. Corps artillery and tank destroyers got the range on the German mechanized units and repulsed them with heavy loss. The 9th Division units claimed a total of 11 tanks knocked out.

The center and right flank of the Corps were also assaulted by tanks and infantry, but the enemy was forced to withdraw under the accurate fire of the 4th and 83rd Divisions who respectively reported 7 and 6 tanks destroyed. This added to those knocked out by the 9th Division, other Corps units and Air support would indicated the enemy had lost 37 tanks destroyed or damaged. The G-3 score for Corps troops was 24 damaged or knocked out as follows: 39th Infantry, 5; 47th Infantry, 4; 330th Infantry, 6; 3rd Battalion of 22nd Infantry, 7 with bazooka fire, and 60th TD Battalion, 2.

In the 83rd sector the 329th passed through the 331st and made limited gains along the Division front. Following an aerial bombardment the 330th jumped off at 1200, repulsed repeated tank-infantry attacks, and destroyed 6 tanks; one by tank fire; one by sticky grenade, and four by bazooka fire.

The 4th Reconnaissance Troop relieved the 8th Infantry in the les Aubries-Blehou area of the 4th Division zone, and moved southwest to support the 22nd. On this regimental front 7 tanks were knocked out.

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The net result of the enemy tank assault was very unsuccessful. In addition to the heavy losses, he failed to gain any ground, and was forced to fall back, resuming his defensive tactics as the Corps renewed its southern push.

July 12, the day following the enemy's tank attack, saw the Corps sector return to the pattern of action that limited operations almost entirely to infantry and artillery. The Corps made progress, but it was slow work driving the Germans from their prepared defensive positions north of the Taute.

On the 83rd and 4th Division front the enemy was pushed back. The 4th's attack encountered stiff opposition immediately. The enemy waged a delaying action fight to prevent our advances in the drive to capture Periers. The 1st Battalion of the 22nd Infantry initiated flanking movements around the southeast flank of the 2nd to capture limited objectives in the 4th's zone. At 2145 the 12th Infantry relieved the 22nd Regiment, less the 3rd Battalion and the 22nd reverted to the rear. The 3rd Battalion continued the attack and pushed 1000 yards to le Hoge where they were held up by fire from houses. The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, reinforced by elements of the 4th Engineer Combat Battalion, occupied the Island west of Blehon with Troop A, and maintained patrols along the Seves River to prevent enemy infiltration into the zone of action. With D Battery of the 129th AAA Gun Battalion attached, the 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion maintained anti-tank defenses in the zone of action, but the enemy showed no inclination to commit his armor in a renewal of his costly attack of the day before.

An enemy strong point was reduced by the 3rd Battalion of the 329th (83rd Division) near Chau de Bois Grimot. The other battalions of the Regiment destroyed four tanks which were fighting defensively by lending fire support to the infantry, and captured two crews. During the day's fighting the 331st made an advance of 1 kilometer. The 330th cleared the enemy from the area of le Manoin, St. Andre de Bohon, le Port, le Moulin and in a fight at le Port destroyed two tanks with the 2nd Battalion halting only at the water's edge in the town. The 329th and 331st gained more than 500 yards in fighting their way to the stream south of Bois Grimot. In mopping up the St. Andre de Bohon Peninsula the Division had the support of cavalry and advance patrols of the 4th Squadron occupied Primehou to the west.

Over on the Corps' east the 9th relieved pressure on the left flank of the 83rd by driving west to the divisional boundary, south of the strong position at Tribehou. Considerable mopping up was accomplished and positions secured for the continuation of the attack southward. Substantial gains were also made to the west. At 1400 the 60th Infantry and Combat Command A (3rd Armored Division) jumped off, clearing the enemy from Bois de Hommet and crossed the Gournay- le Hommet- d'Arthenay Road. Two Battalions of the 60th reached the area southwest from la Rames astride the road leading from Tribehou to St. Io thereby blocking any possible enemy escape from the Tribehou area.

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On the Division's left flank strong resistance was encountered by the 39th, and for the second straight day the Regiment was heavily counter attacked. The 2d and 3d Battalions were forced to yield a hundred yards and then made a stand. Causualties were high in one company. The other Regimental units retained their post and beat off the attackers, taking 100 prisoners. The 24th Cavalry patrol advanced 400 yards inland on Tribehou before stopping for the night without encountering any enemy.

During the day two enemy guns that had been shelling Carentan sporodically were silenced.

Renewed attacks of the VII Corps on 13 July resulted in small gains with one spearhead in the center of the front reaching to the Taute River. Repeated enemy counter attacks delayed the advance in all three division sectors, but caused no loss of ground.

At 0700 the 47th Infantry of the 9th Division opened the day's drive, followed by the 39th an hour later with the 4th Division units joining in at 0900 and the 329th and 331st of the 83d adding impetus at 0930. These two regiments of General Macon's command in the Corps center maintained some pregress, though slow, throughout the day with gains of 1000 to 1500 yards. The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, met scattered resistance with the enemy putting up a delaying action fight. At noon the 331st was at La Laude and continued to move down the peninsula and at 1240 the 1st Battalion of the 329th was in contact with elements of the 4th Division on the right flank. The 1st Battalion of the 331st reached a stream they were to cross to the west, but as the 2d and 3d Battalions were then executing a successful push southward, they did not cross and the point of the morning's attack became the reserve. The Division right flank was extended forward a thousand yards to include La Martiniere, and the center 300 yards south of Auxis.

A severe counter-attack in the zone of the 3d Battalion, 331st Infantry, stopped the advance of the 83d left flank, and caused some confusion for a while but did not become serious. Meanwhile the 330th completed mopping up the St. Andre de Bohon le Moulin Peninsula.

When the 4th Division renewed their attack that morning the advance was slowed by small arms fire, and almost immediately the enemy counterattacked, and little progress was made. The Germans were well dug in on the sunken roads to the Division front. The 22d, less the 3d Battalion was relieved by the 12th Infantry and reverted to the Division Reserve in the vicinity of Gournay.

The initial attack of the 12th was supported by fire from the 8th, and Company B, 87th Chemical Weapons Battalion, two platoons of Company C, 801st Tank Destroyers, and a platoon each from A and D Batteries of the 377th AAA AW Battalion. All available firepower from the zone of action supported the push of the infantry. The Regiment cleared several fields with the 3d Battalion gaining some 500 yards during the morning and patrols were thrown across the Holerotte River.

Along the 9th Division front gains of a mile were registered during the day with the 39th and 47th Infantry pushing the attack while the 60th Mopped up stragglers in the area southwest of Tribehou toward Thiebots and the 24th Cavalry Squadron cleaned out the Tribehou area. The 39th and 47th had both advanced upwards of a kilometer by 1200.

Tribehou Island was cut off when the Cavalry secured the approach and later

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[illegible] the center of the island. Engineer units repaired the bridge leading from the east to Tribehou. In the area west of Bois de Hommet the villages of Tribehou, Gournay, es Aubris, la Vincenterie and es Morns were cleared.

As the 60th drove south two battalions were placed astride Tribehou-le Champs de Losque Road in the vicinity of Gournay and the 1st Battalion pushed south below Tribehou for a gain of 2000 yards. The 47th advance was slightly less as the enemy gave ground grudgingly and withdrew only under extreme pressure and then made a renewed and determined stand at the next hedgerow.

The 2d Parachuet Regiment made their appearance on the Corps front during the day and on 14 July the 13th Parachute was identifiedl.

Corps artillery shelled Remilly sur Lozon, bringing in four battalions simultaneously when 700 Germans and a concentration of guns and tanks were reported in the village. Aerial observation reported the town burning and a gas dump in flames. Next day no activity was observed there.

The Corps boundary on the right was changed by joint agreement between the Commanding Generals of the VII and VIII Corps to follow the Seves River between the 75 and 80 Grid.

The enemy continued his dogged resistance 14 July, striking back with tank-infantry teams whenever possible, and succeeded in making a slight penetration in the 60th Infantry area of the 9th Division during the night (13/14 July) which was cleaned up after daylight and the Regiment stood by awaiting orders to attack. The 39th was held in position and only the 47th resumed the push, jumping off at 1000 and by dark had gained 1500 yards.

An air attack was to preceed the 4th Division drive on the Corps' right flank and when it was not possible due to the weather the attack was postponed indefinately pending improved flying conditions to permit aerial support. The only activity on the Division front was the relief of the 3d Battalion of the 22d Infantry by the 3d of the 8th Regiment, and contact established between the 4th Cavalry and elements of the 90th Division (VIII Corps) near Biehou.

Enemey artillery was especially active on the 83d front and sharply increased fire was placed in the 9th Division zone. Tribehou was shelled and fires started, and for the first time our artillery air OPs drew antiaircraft fire. Several ME 109's put in an appearance and operated over the Corps area at 2145. One artillery position was straffed and a pass made at an artillery air OP. Our ack-ack answered with heavy fire and the 109th AAA Group claimed at least one catagory I kill.

The weather also caused postponement of the 83d's attack which was to have been made in conjunction with the 4th Division. The 331st repelled an early morning counter attack of tanks and infantrymen. A small enemy force struck at the 330th near La Verde and were also beaten off. The 3d Battalion rejoined the Regiment, and the 1st and 2d Battalions patrolled under the 9th Division relieving the 60th Infantry along the Division's right flank.

Reverting to their secondary mission the 119th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion (90mm) served as field artillery and fired as a battalion from primary position between 1430 and 2200. Detail from the Corps Artillery Fire Direction Center assigned AA units and the batteries adjusted by Corps Artillery air OP during the afternoon. The 119th fired on enemy held ferries, interdicting the roads thru the town for two hours (2000-2200) with 300 rounds. Surveillance by air OP indicated accurate fire was delivered.

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The enemy Order of Battle which had continued much the same was bolstered by the arrival and identification of the 2nd and 13th Parachute Training Regiments during the past two days. A prisoner of war reported that the 13th arrived from Brittany after a 10 day march and immediately went into the lines. Interrogation also revealed that the 14th Parachute was at St. Lo. Other enemy units in contact on this date which had not shown up before were the 64th Panzer Gr Replacement Battalion and two battalions of the 897th Infantry with the 3rd reported in Brittany.

July 15 was to a large extent a repetition of other days of the week so far as the southern advance was concerned. Only one mission was flown by the Air Corps. Small gains were made in the center and east flank of the VII's front.

The most important development of the day was a change in the Corps' boundary, which was to see the zone of operations move to the east on the 16th. Then the 83rd and 4th would pass to VIII Corps and the 30th Division relieved from attachment to the XIX and attached to the VII.

Following an artillery preparation at 1015, the 4th struck south again making limited objective attacks with the 8th Infantry advancing to within 500 yards northeast of Raids and the ground gained was organized defensively before beginning reorganization and consolidation necessary to being relieved by elements of the 83rd.

The 83rd Division hurled the 331st at the enemy at 0600 and threw in the 329th at 1000. These attacks cleared the enemy from north of the Taute in the center and right parts of their zone, and des Seints was reached.

Combat Command A moved to the vicinity of Bois de Hommet as the 9th went at the Germans again with the 330th, (less 2nd Battalion) still detached from the 83rd, attacking at 1130. The attack was southwest along the le Desert - le Mesnil Road from CR (400710) southeast of Champs de Losque with the battalions abreast----the 1st left of the road and the 3rd on the right. Small gains were made despite the heaviest enemy artillery concentration in the entire southern drive. Prepared field fortifications were used by the Germans and the ground to the south served for observation with effective results that held up the 47th and 60th advance. Nevertheless, limited progress was made that enabled the 47th to occupy a position 1800 yards south of le Hommet d'Arthenay and the 60th to advance astride the Carentan-Marigny road, taking Gde Mairie and a Tiboterie.

A change was announced on this day for future operations. In addition to the 4th and 83rd and their attached components passing to VIII Corps control on our west, in exchange for the 30th Infantry Division as the VII extended its zone of action to the east, the 1st Infantry Division from the V Corps was attached to the VII and also the 2nd Armored Division, effective 152400, except for the armored unit which was awaiting relief by elements of the 2nd British Army, and the transfer would not become effective until ordered by 1st Army.

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The enemy had spent another costly and unprofitable period during the week in his effort to contain our bridgehead. On the VIIth front he had been forced back on an average of two to three miles all the way from the west coast to St. Lo. Opposite on the 2nd Army front he had been driven off the important high ground south of the Odon and had to give up Caen and retire beyond the town. In attempting to keep Allied armor from breaking out across the river, he continued to throw in reserves piecemeal to plug each hole that appeared in his lines.

From intelligence reports it appeared he might intend to withdraw south of the Periers-St. Lo Road, as he had spent a week of slow defensive action, fighting from hedgerow to hedgerow back toward the line of the road.

Any plan for strong counterattacks calculated to give the enemy the initiative were defeated when he committed his tanks of the Panzer Grenadier Regiments of the 2nd SS "Lehr" in the independent and unsuccessful counterattack south and southwest of St. Jean de Daye. All enemy attempts to win back ground northwest of St. Lo were unsuccessful, and east of the town XIX troops were firmly astride the road leading to Bayeux and Caumont.

After St. Jean De Daye, the XIX Corps on our left flank had turned south toward St. Lo and with the capture of Fort Hebert, advanced [illegible] where the 29th Division was threatening the town itself.

It seemed apparent he might delay our advance, and indeed it had been slow in the difficult Norman terrain, but he could not prevent it. To the west of the VII Corps boundary the enemy generally occupied a west-east line from Lessay, east to Raids. From the latter town his line ran southwest across the Taute River in the vicinity of es Aubris, which VII Corps troops had taken only a few days before, and then in a general line southeast thru le Mesnil-rauxelin, Berrigny, Caumont.

In six days the seasoned, battle tried 9th Division had advanced just six miles. Small gains were registered at times, but the attack always bogged down in the face of the dogged, German resistance before a break-thru could be achieved. The hedgerow country of small plots or fields made any large scale coordinate attack impossible. In one aerial photograph, made to scale of 1 to 9000, and covering an area of 4 by 5 kilometers (7.668 square miles) more than 3900 of these hedged enclosures were located by Capt Louis Batt of Corps Photo Intrepretation team, No. 10. The average size of one of these plots being slightly larger than a football field, and many of these were tiny orchards.

In the past week to July the VII Corps had substained approximately 5000 casualties of which 800 were killed in action and 4000 wounded.

With the 30th Division, commanded by Maj Gen L. S. Hobbs, passing to VII Corps control the zone of operations shifted eastward and the front lines followed the general line of St. Ebremond on the west to a little southeast of Marian on the left flank. The enemy had been pushed back to the Periers-St Lo road in several sectors of the front and in most zones was just a little north of this important artery.

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Operation memorandum, No. 39, Hq VII Corps, 16 July, 1944, confirming oral orders of General Collins, directed the 4th Division to move to the area of Montmartin - en Graignes, St. Nichols, Rouxeville under VIII Corps control, and that the 83d Division would pass to the VIII on this date along with the remainder of the 330th Infantry Regiment instead of 152100.

The remaining units on the Corps front were directed to continue the attack. All three regiments of the 9th Division----39th, 47th and 60th ---- jumped off at 0915. The 30th continued operations this day under then current plans and instructions issued previously by the Commanding General of the XIX Corps, which were to keep pushing the attack south.

At 1200 the 1st and 2d Battalions of the 120th Infantry were the only units of the 30th to make any sustained advances. They passed thru the 119th Infantry and had not advanced before the Germans counter-attacked by tank supported infantry. The thrust came at 1600 from the northeast along the axis of St. Gilles-Vents road. Col. Burkes troops repulsed the enemy with considerable loss to him. Again at 2000 the Germans hurled tank-infantry teams at the two battalions and again they were repulsed with heavy loss. A total of 16 tanks were destroyed by the 120th ----8 by bazooks, and 8 artillery and tank destroyer units. A number of these tanks had been imobilized from lack of fuel and were employed in a dug in position to give fire support to other advancing units and foot troops.

The counter attacks of the enemy and his ever present small arms fire from organized positions did not permit any great advances. Following in the wake of the 120th was the 117th Infantry, mopping up. Company B cleared but the 1s Mesnil Durand and Companies E and F, patrolling on the right flank made contact with elements of the 9th Division. The 119th was held in reserve.

Meanwhile the 9th Division was encountering heavy resistance in their southwest attack, receiving the usual small arms and mortar fires. The 3d Battalion of the 39th was held up at the line of departure and the Regiment's other two units made only slight advances in the morning with the 2d Battalion stopped two fields from the line of departure. Enemy artillery was fairly quiet except when a move forward commenced and there was a break up in his lines. Then there was a sharp increase in his fire which pinned down the advance.

During the three hours of forenoon fighting the 330th Infantry, serving attached to the 9th Division, gained some 500 to 1000 yards and succeeded in widening thebridgehead across the le Lozon River. Late in the afternoon there was a break when our troops moved forward rapidly for about 1000 yards. However the enemy managed to take up a new line of prepared positions and halted the advance with heavy fire.

The VII Corps CP was moved to Goucherie and opened there at 1600. The 1st Infantry and 3d Armored Divisions remained in assembly areas. The two drives against the 120th by enemy tanks were his only offensive operations along the whole First U.S. Army front on 16 July.

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The next day the enemy continued his organization of the high ground south of the Periers-St Lo Road, while waging a delaying action fight and slowly drawing back under the pressure of the VII Corps' southern advance. The 9th Division attack on 17 July ran into the usual pockets of stiff hedgerow to hedgerow resistance near Esglandes which covered about two square kilometers around Amigny, and held up the 39th and 47th Infantry Regiments. On the right the 60th was advancing against heavy small arms and mortar fires, and the 330th was making slow but sustained progress and advanced to about 1100 yards west of Remilly-sur-Lozon. The 47th and 39th were able to gain a kilometer in the day's fighting with the 1st Battalion of the 47th reaching the cross roads, Pte Ducrie.

On the eastern zone of the two Division front the 30th advanced slowly throughout the day to reach objectives 1 kilometer south of le Mesnil-Durand and began consolidation of positions for an active defense. With tanks employed as pill boxes in support of the heaviest artillery yet experienced on the Division front a battalion (probably 1st Bn) of the 14th Parachute attacked the 120th Infantry, using automatic weapons and mortar fires as they advanced. The 1st Battalion of the 120th was occupying a hedgerow defensive position and received the brunt of the German attack, which slid off the right flank under the withering fire returned by the Americans. The 117th Infantry was moving up at the time to establish a road block and also encountered the Parachutists.

A few Germans infiltrated through the lines and were wiped out, but most were cut down by the 30th's effective fire, and the rest retreated badly beaten and the battalion nearly shattered. Of the 110 or so men in one Parachute Company only 11 were left according to a PW. This strength was in accord with Corps Order of Battle estimates for the unit and from the number of German dead counted in two fields, at least two companies of the battalion were wiped out.

An interesting comparison can be obtained here between the relative merits of American and German infantry for it was one of the very few times the enemy attacked us in an intrenched position and their repulse was far greater and more costly than any loss sustained by us in the past two weeks of continually carrying the fight to the enemy. He was beaten back. We were making slow but steady daily advances.

The Seventh German Army units opposing us at this time were grouped around elements of three divisions. The westernmost comprised 17 SS Division, represented by elements of the 37th and 38th SS Regiments, the 17th Engineer Battalion, and a battery or more of the 17th Artillery Regiment; the Second or Middle Group contained all units of the 5th Parachute Division, elements of the Panzer "Lehr" Division (901st Regiment), 130th Artillery Regiment, 130th Tank Regiment, 130th Reconnaissance Battalion, and the Eastern Group which confronted part of the 30th Division front, was also built around part of an SS Division, "Das Reich" of which one regiment, "Deutschland" was identified and other elements of the 2d SS Engineer Battalion and a "somewhat" confused group called Kampfgruppen Gebhardt, Heits, Seppdietrich, and consisting of the 275th Fusilier Battalion, 517th Mobile Squadron, and elements of several parachute units, all evidently under SS Comand. To the east were remnants of the 14th Parachute and a parachute reconnaissance battalion.

The night of 17-18 July was comparatively quiet. The next morning plan for the VII Corps was for the 9th Division to strike at 0800 to seize and hold the line running approximately from one kilometer east of le Colombier to a kilometer south of Amigny. The 30th was to consolidate and hold the line south from Amigny to Rampan.

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Our attack got off on time and good progress was made against light resistance. It was soon apparent that the enemy was withdrawing under pressure. There were no counter attacks. His fire was restricted almost entirely to mortars and intermittent artillery from the vicinity of la Chapelle.

In the 9th Division sector the 39th and 47th reduced an enemy salient to the Division front and the front lines of the 1st and 3d Battalions of the former regiment were pushed 1000 yards west of Amigny. After and advance of two miles the 47th withdrew to the reserve. Consolidation of positions was continued in the 30th Division zone. Companies G and F of the 117th seized the bridges across the Terrette River, southeast of pte Ducrie, and elements of the 119th relieved the 1st Battalion south of le Viquerie.

Near St. Jean de Daye the 3d Armored Division was in bivouac with the 1st Infantry Division at Colombieres and the 3d Armored was enroute to its assembly area of Tournieres. The 330th Infantry Regiment returned to control of the 83d Division with the VIII Corps on this day.

Another quiet night followed on the Corps front with no enemy artillery or air activity. The next day, 19 July, a small salient in front of the Corps sector was further reduced but only against the most determined resistance from dug in tanks and well placed infantry weapons. On the right of the 9th's zone the day's objective was obtained, but the 39th could force only minor gains to the left. The 30th Division also made a slight advance along their front with the enemy attempting no offensive action.

With the announcement of the capture of St. Lo on our immediate left by the 29th Division, and the fact the British had crossed the Orne River at the eastern end of the Allied front came Field Order, No. 6, Operation "Cobra", issued by the VII Corps on 19 July. This was a plan for a drive resulting in a quick break thru of the enemys lines between Marigny-St Lo by infantry and tanks, with armored units exploiting the gap by establishing a corridor and then swinging west to the sea.

There was no change in the Corps front lines on 20 July. During the day the concentration of troops for operation "Cobra" continued and the 4th Infantry Division, minus RCT 22, reverted to Corps control and was assigned its mission for the forthcoming offensive. The 1st Infantry Division started its move from their bivouac location to the attack assembly area and the two Armored Division attached to the Corps remained in bivouac.

The weather was poor for aerial observation and photography, and other than patrolling and the improvement of defensive positions . Offensive activity along the Corps front was restricted to the 39th Infantry in the 9th Division zone. The Regiment attacked at 0845 with the 2d Battalion passing through the 1st, but ran into heavy enemy resistance in the area east of Mesnil-Durand. Only meager progress was made although the effort continued until after 2200. Other elements of the Division had their outpost lines along the Periers-Lt Lo Road in their zones.

During the relief of the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, by the 2d Battalion of the 47th Regiment, a fire fight occured and a small amount of ground was lost in that sector. The 120th fell back on the 30th Division front to allow the Field Artillery to fire. Corps Artillery fired 8 registrations, 16 harassing and 7 counter battery missions in addition to 6 Divisional serenades. A total of 1028 rounds were fired.

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Rain which continued throughout the day of 21 July, caused postponement of operation "Cobra" and it was tentatively set for 23 July, weather permitting. There was little action on the fighting front either on the part of the enemy or the VII Corps troops. Front lines and CPs remained practically the same as for the past two days.

Active patrolling was continued by the 30th Division. The 117th Regiment was kept in reserve while the 119th maintained the active defense of its sector and sent out reconnaissaince patrols to detect enemy positions, and the 120th worked on improving positions. Patrols reported the enemy also improving his positions south of the St Lo road.

The 4th Infantry Division moved to the attack area in the rear of the 9th where the 39th again made contact with the enemy by a limited objective attack which failed to produce any particular advantage for the enemy counterattacked after the 2d Battalion had advanced some 200 yards toward the Periers-St Lo Road. Enemy defense was built around a small pocket of resistance supported by a self-propelled gun, and when the counter attack was launched by the Germans the 1st Battalion of the 120th was put in position for any needed assistance. At the end of the day the objective in the 39th sector had not been completely occupied.

The artillery also had a light day. The 30th Division gunners fired 6 counter battery, 19 registrations and 8 divisional serenades while the 9th artillery fired 10 counter battery, 9 tank targets, 41 close support missions, and Corps batteries supported the 39th with 21 counter battery, 3 registrations and 3 reinforcing missions.

Continued rainy weather for the next two days, 22-23 July caused postponement of D-day for "Cobra" again, and the operation was tentatively set for 24 July. During the 22d there were no important changes along the front lines. The 30th and 9th Divisions continued to maintain contact with the enemy, improve their positions and patrol. The enemy confined himself to patrolling and there were no offensive gestures made. Patrols reported that the enemy was also utilizing this period to improve defense works. Aerial activity was of a psychological nature with propaganda leaflets being dropped over enemy terrority.

With the rain of 22 July came the close of the third week of hedgerow fighting for the VII Corps of the First U.S. Army. The enemy had continued to withdraw slowly through the week with his main loss that of the important center of St Lo.

At the base of the Cotentin he had continued his usual withdrawl tactics, which were aided in the coastal sector by the River Ay and inland by the apparently inexhaustable series of hedgerowed small fields or plots. He had liberally added to thses natural obstacles with anti-tank and anti-personnel mines in large numbers. His only act of an offensive nature consisted of a number of small scale tank-infantry thrusts at the First Army lines, most of which were directed at the area north west of St. Lo and fell in the VII Corps sector, and all of which were beaten off.

Corps units remained in their assembly areas, prepared to attack at H-hour on D-day through the 23 July. Patrolling was actively conducted and contact maintained with the enemy by infantry units. Movement in the obstacle bound Normandy country was made even more difficult by the rains which had turned the narrow roads into a thick, heavy bog which permitted only restricted mechanized travel.

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The only act of the enemy on 23 July was the dropping of flares over the zone of the 120th Infantry on the 30th Division, followed by small bombs, causing a number of casualties. Losses for the week among Corps troops were about 2300, including 300 Killed, 1850 wounded and some 100 missing. Total casualties for July to date were more than 12,400 of which number some 1500 were K.I.A.; 9,500 wounded and the rest missing. Only 6 were listed as captured on G-1 reports from which these figures were taken, as of 23 July.

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OPERATION "COBRA"

The Break-Through

Covering that period of the VII Corps, U.S. Army history under Field Order No. 6, from 24 to 31 July, 1944, including the break-through south of the Periers-St. Lo Road, and the subsequent exploitation by armored columns.

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Field Order No. 6, known as Operation "Cobra" was based on the plan of the First United States Army to attack south along the entire front with Corps abreast in order VIII, VII, XIX, and V from west to east.

Operation "Cobra" was to be a drive to make a quick break through the enemy's forward line, pushing south between Marigny and St. Lo, establish a defended corridor between these two points, and permit egress for combination armored-infantry elements of VII Corps to pivot in vicinity of Marigny and drive west to the sea between Coutances and Brehal.

The VIII Corps was to attack at H plus 6 hours on D-day with the mission, in conjunction with the VII Corps, of destroying the enemy in its front. Initial objectives were north of the line Geffosses-St. Saveur Lendelin-la Cardonniere. The XIX and V Corps were to attack after D-day and pin down enemy reserves east of the Vire River. A carefully mapped area of enemy strong points and escape routes was prepared for the IX Tactical Air command to saturate. Fighter-bombers were to initially concentrate on the enemy's forward positions and then be available for tactical armed reconnaissance and for close bombing support on enemy points of resistance as the advance progressed.

In all a total of nearly 3,000 planes were to support the ground troops, including 1800 heavy bombers, 350 fighter-bombers, in seven groups, 396 medium bombers in eleven groups and 500 fighters flying top cover protection for the B-17s and B-24s. An annex to the Field Order gave details of the air support plan which assigned the various air groups their respective missions for reconnaissance, request flights, advance column cover and set bomb lines and various times of changes. From H-80 minutes to H-60 minutes seven groups of fighter-bombers were to work on the enemy positions immediately south of the Periers-St. Lo Road, followed by 1800 "Liberators" and "Flying Fortresses" from H-60 minutes to H-hour with a clearly defined bombing area south of the enemy's forward positions just below the Periers-St. Lo Road; then the fighter-bombers were to return to the strip right along the road, known as strip "A" in this particular operation, and from H plus 30 to H plus 75 minutes the 396 medium bombers were to hit the same area as the "Heavies" and then be available on turn-around for additional request.

The Artillery with V, VIII, XIX Corps was to coordinate with air bombardment and artillery preparation of the VII Corps, their preparation on enemy artillery and antiaircraft positions and then furnish continuous supporting fires. Counter-flak air control was to be provided and continuous counter-battery surveillance in the VII Corps zone of action by planes of Corps Field Artillery. Tank Destroyer and Anti-Aircraft units not required to perform their primary missions were to be employed as Field Artillery to thicken concentrations and for harassing and accompanying missions.

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H-hour and D-day were to be announced. Corps Troops were to strike with six strongly reinforced divisions, assigned the mission of penetrating the enemy's defenses between Marigny and St Gilles; seize and hold the line: Coutances-Marigny so as to cut off the enemy forces facing the VIII Corps; assist the VIII Corps in the destruction of these forces; and block along the line: Cerences-Tessy Sur Vire-St Lo any enemy reinforcements from the south or east from interfeering with the operation.

The attack of the 9th Infantry Division was to be made in conjunction with the 30th and 4th Divisions on its left to seize initially the objectives within its zone of action following the air and artillery preparation, and was to be pushed at all costs so as to insure clearing the Marigny-St Gilles gap for the exploiting forces as rapidly as possible, and specifically: to clear its objective, protect the Corps right flank, hold the objective south of Marigny, the woods and le Hardiohon, and clear the route of the 1st Infantry within its zone, and maintain contact with the 1st Division when passed through.

In addition to operating in conjunction with the 9th and 30th the 4th was to protect the Marigny-St Gilles gap from attack from the south, maintain contact with the 30th on the left, and clear the route of the 3d Armored Division within its zone of action as soon as initial objectives were secured so as to allow fast movement of the mechanized units through its zone.

The 30th Division had the mission of protecting the left flank of the Corps penetration, holding the objective ground south of St Gilles until relieved, continuing the attack to seize a crossing of the Vire River and preventing any enemy reinforcements from the east crossing the Vire between St Lo and Gd. Val de Vire, both inclusive. The 30th was then to clear all traffic thru its zone for the 2d Armored Division.

The exploiting forces of the 1st Infantry Division with Combat Command "B" of the 3d Armored attached, were to drive through the gap cleared by the 9th, turn rapidly to the southwest and block and assist in destroying enemy forces in front of the VIII Corps between Coutances and Fontenay, both inclusive, and maintain contact with the 3d Armored on its left. Movement through the gap was to commence on two hours notice of orders from the Commanding General of the VII Corps.

Except for Combat Command "B" the 3d Armored was to drive through the gap cleared by the 4th moving rapidly to the southwest to secure the southern exits of Coutances and secure the south flank of the 1st Division between Nymouville and Cerisy La Salle.

With Regimental Combat Team 22 of the 4th Infantry Division attached the 2d Armored Division was to strike through the gap cleared by the 30th to seize initially the area le Mesnil Hermon-St Sanson de Bon Fosse-Hill 183 in order to cover the movement of the 1st Infantry and 3d Armored through Marigny-St Gilles gap; push one combat command to the southwest in the vicinity of Pont Hebert-St Gilles-Canisy Road and prepared on orders to move as follows: to seize and secure objectives within its zone of action between Cerences and St Denis le Vast and prevent enemy reinforcements moving to the north through this area, and to move on Coutances to reinforce the 3d and to the southeast to reinforce the remainder of the 2d Armored Division in its mission.

Enemy encountered on the exploiting forces were to be contained and by passed

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until objectives had been secured. Corps Engineers were assigned the task of supporting the attack by promptly clearing four roads through Marigny-St. Gilles gap and giving maximum support to the 1st Infantry and the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions.

The area bounded roughly by Lessay and St. Lo on the northwest and northeast, and Avranches, about 36 miles south of Lessay on the west coast and extending inland to Domfort, south and east of St. Lo, was to be the scene of the Corps next operation. It embraced some 250 square miles and contained no less than 8 rivers all of sufficient size to offer formidable obstacles. But even greater barriers than the streams themselves, most of which averaged from 20 to 100 feet in width, was the steepness of the valley walls through which they flow.

The Vire and Taute both were well know to the Corps. The former, a controlling terrain feature throughout its length between the towns of Vire and St. Lo by reason of its width, and the latter with its many tributaries diding the isthmus between the two rivers into north-south corridors, and the River Aytending to channelize seriously the advance in the already narrow passage between Lessay and Periers, had served as important natural defensive barriers, well utilized by the enemy for the last three weeks.

Flowing generally north, except in its middle course, the Sienne, which is joined near Coutances by the snake like Soulle, together with its other branches tend to make a considerable vantage ground for enemy defensive action due to the steepness of the valley ridges and the deep walls through which these waters pass, especially in the high ground in the middle of the entire section where most have their source. The Airou River in the western edge of the area runs north also and it too cuts through steep river valleys.

Of the remaining two streams of any size the See constitutes the least obstacle, although at least 20 feet wide for some 20 kilometers in from the coast it does not flow through steep walls. The Selune River, runs generally west-northwest and empties into the Channel near the mouth of the See, southwest of Avranches around which the two streams flow, and is about 200 feet wide for the last 40 miles of its course across the lower reaches of the new zone of operations. Both because of its natural width at its mouth and by reason of a dam near les Douets, backing up a large amount of water into a deep valley, it formed a considerable barrier, except for the stretch between les Doutes and Ducey where it passes between flat banks.

In addition to the steep banks of the numberous streams, the high ground in the immediate vicinity of Percy, a natural defensive post to delay any attack on the town east of the Soulle; the east-west line of ridges between the upper Sienne and See, and between the See and Selune, constituting formidable barriers to troops driving south, and the high ground running north from Hill 112 and the east-west ridge at Marigny, possession of both of which were necessary before any advance could be made south along the Trioehou-Marigny road, or for a successful east, west or south push from the present VII Corps area, were all given careful and detailed study in preperation for the VII Corps plan.

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The six Divisions that were to comprise the VII Corps for operation "Cobra" included the 9th and 4th Infantry Divisions, commanded by Major Generals Manton S. Eddy, and Raymond O. Barton, both of which participated in the Cherbourg campaign; the former National Guard 30th Division Under Major General Leland S. Hobbs; the 1st Infantry Division, Major General Clarence R. Huebner commanding, and the 2d and 3d Armored Division of Major Generals Edward H. Brooks and Leroy H. Watson's command, neither of which had yet been committed in an large scale action.

Reinforcements and attachments for the VII Corps included: 9th Division, 376th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion; 746th Tank Battalion; 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion, self-propelled, plus Battery,A, 119th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battallion (90mm); Companies C and D, 87th Chemical Weapons Battalion, and 196 and 605th Field Artillery Battalions of 105s.

4th Division: 377th Antiaircraft Artillery automatic Weapons Battalion; 70th Tank Battalion; 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion, towed, and Company B of the 87th Chemical Weapons Battalion.

30th Division: 531st Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion; 745d Tank Battalion, 823d Tank Destroyer Battalion, towed; 246th Engineer Combat Battalion, and the 18th Field Artillery Battalion, 105s.

1st Division: Combat Command "B" (of 3d Armored Division), 103d Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion; 745th Tank Battalion; 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion, towed, plus Battery B, 129th Antiaircraft Gun Battalion (90mm); 634th Tank Destroyer Battalion, self-propelled; 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and Company A, 87th Chemical Weapons Battalion.

3d Armored Division: Battalion of Combat Team, 1st Infantry; 468th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, self-propelled; 703d Tank Destroyer Battalion, self-propelled, plus Batteries A and B, 413th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion (90mm); 298th Engineer Combat Battalion; 58th and 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalions.

Corps Troops: Headquarters 109th Antiaircraft Artillery Group; 129th Antiaircraft Artillery (less detachments); 438th, 456th, 474th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalions, the latter self-propelled; Headquarters 1st Tank Destroyer Group, 129th and 413th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalions (less detachments); Headquarters 1106th Engineer Group, 237th and 49th Engineer Combat Battalion, 991st Engineer Treadway Bridge Company, 501st Engineer Light Ponton Company, and Detachment 86th Engineer Heavy Ponton Battalion; 1120th Engineer Group, 294th 296th and 297th Engineer Combat Battalions, 507th Engineer Light Ponton Company, 988th Engineer Treadway Bridge Company, Detachment 181st Engineer Heavy Ponton Battalion, 612th Engineer Light Equipment Company, Detachment 1501st Engineer Water Supply Company, and 663d Engineer Topographical Company; headquarters 6th Armored Group.

Corps Artillery: 13th Field Artillery Observation Battalion, Battery B, 3d Field Artillery Battalion; 18th Field Artillery Group, 188th and 957th Field Artillery Battalions of 155 Howitzers; 183th Field Artillery Group, 172d Field Artillery Battalion (4.5 Gun) and 183d and 991st Field Artillery Battalions of 155 Howitzers) 32d Field Artillery Brigade, 7-th Field Artillery Group (266th, 551st and 552d Field Artillery Battalions of 240 Howitzers) 142d Field Artillery Group (195th Field Artillery Battalion of 8 Inch Howitzers and the 980th and 981st Field Artillery Battalions of 155 Guns) 258th Field Artillery Group (258th, 987th and 991st Field Artillery Battalions of 155 self-propelled guns.

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Against this array of Corps might the enemy was known to have the following units opposing our troops: 5th Parachute Division (12th Company, Reconnaissance Battalion, 13th Parachute Regiment, 1st and 3d Battalions of 14th Regiment and II Reconnaissance Battalion) with total of strength of about 3,000 according to G-2 estimates; 130th Panzer "Lehr" Division (130th Engineer and Artillery Battalions, 4th Company 130th panzer Reconnaissance, 901st and 902d Panzer Grenadier Regiments); 2d SS Panzer Division (3d Battalion, SS "Deutschland" and a Battalion of 2d SS Engineers); 3d Parachute Division (1 Company, 5th Parachute Regiment), ~~and~~ 265th Infantry Division (2d Battalion, 894th Regiment, remnants of 517th Mobile Battalion, a company of anti-aircraft and part of an artillery battalion).

Allowing liberally for replacements and reserved which intelligence deemed very unlikely, there could not have been more than 10,000 Germans opposing the VII Corps front, and these coupled with the number on the right and left of our zone of action did not boost the total to 25,000. Some 35 to 50 tanks were estimated on our front. Reserve enemy units capable of reaching the battle zone included an unidentified Pz Division moving in 57 trains, elements of which were bombed on 12-13 July at Ancenis, 11th Pz Division, an unidentified Division from the Fifteenth Army, Kampfgruppe from 343d Infantry Division in Brittany, 271st Division reported at Chalons, and the 272d Division then on the British front, all of which would take three or more days to reach the Normandy battle front.

The 24th of July dawned clear but with low hanging clouds which conflicted considerably with plans to pace the new attack with a heavy bomber raid of enemy held positions. Finally by mid-morning Allied Commanders decided to postpone once again operation "Cobra" and it was set back another day. However, due to poor communications and the fact that many bombers had to leave their British bases early in the morning in order to be over the target area by H-60 hours there appeared a huge fleet above VII Corps CP in Goucherie at about 11 o'clock, heading south and a few minutes later the ground rocked and trembled as they unloaded over the enemy's line in an aboritve bombing.

Heavy flak greeted the U.S. planes, and several were seen to go down in flames as the whole of the enemy artillery appeared to open up. This may have been a good indication of his nervous tension in anticipation of the Allied attack for certainly many gun positions were revealed which he had hoped to keep concealed until a full scale attack was launched.

All three front line Divisions ----9th, 4th and 30th---reported heavy artillery fire immediately following the start of our air preparation, originally on the main axis of our advance and then shifting to the front lines. There was no indication of withdrawl from enemy prepared positions just south of the Periers-St. Lo Road, although the 9th Infantry moved back to the front line (LD) without resistance. (Corps front line troops had withdrawn 1200 yards north of the Periers-St. Lo Road, just prior to the bombing).

The 1st Infantry and 2d and 3d Armored Divisions were ordered to remain in their concealed bivouac area without movement. The 9th continued forward and as the Division forward elements reached the St. Lo Road ran into artillery fire and were greeted by small arms and mortar fires of the usual intensity. Company A of the 47th Infantry pushed forward one hedgerow and remained for the night. The rest of the Regiment occupied their former positions. 1 Company of the 39th continued against heavy resistance and later at 1800 with Companies K and L from the 3d Battalion supporting in a column formation, advanced slowly to several hundred yards west of Amigny. The 2d Battalion attacked to the west and together with the 3d secured the crossroad which was the key point of the enemy's defense and cleared the northern edge of the woods to the 2d front.

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The 2nd Battalion of the 8th Infantry led the 4th's demonstration and attacked at 1300, passing thru the leading elements of the 29th and succeeded in advancing to a line north of the Beriers-St. Lo Highway. On Division order the Battalion withdrew to the stream in their area and consolidated. More than 350 casualties of all types were counted that day.

The completed build-up for D-day (25 July) found the 9th, 4th and 30th Divisions on the line in that order from right to left across the Corps front. The two Armored units and 1st Infantry remained in reserve awaiting orders.

That morning -- just 50 days after the initial Normandy beach landings -- a gigantic armada of U.S. bombers and fighters roared overhead and blasted German installations in the greatest concentration of air power in support of ground troops in the history of modern warfare. The effectiveness of this tremendous bombing was not immediately apparent for the ground attack that followed ran into strong resistance on the right while on the left intense artillery fire was encountered from guns our bombers had not hit. Gains of about 3.5 kilometers were made by the 8th Infantry of the 4th Division and 9th units advanced equally as far with the 30th pushing its line forward some 2 kilometers and although the enemy was forced back along his entire line his front was still firm and there was no indication of any withdrawal.

Prior to the saturation bombing by the U.S. Air Corps the front line Divisions withdrew from the line of departure. At 1100 they moved out to attack except the 47th Infantry which was held up for more than an hour regrouping when some bombs fell short and caused a number of casualties, especially in the 3rd Battalion. In regrouping the 1st of the 39th took over the mission of the 47th's 1st, which in turn replaced the badly disorganized 3rd. Later after regrouping the 3rd Battalion joined in the attack.

The 9th moved ahead against moderate resistance from small arms and machine gun fire. Flat trajectory fire from south of le Chapelle en Juger and heavy artillery fire, estimated as a battery of 155mm guns, was being placed on the Division front from the southwest. The advance of the 4th and 30th was held up by heavy fire from automatic weapons and artillery reported to be 105mm and 150mm.

In advancing the 3rd Battalion to crossroads (400473) southeast of le Mesnil-Rury the 60th Infantry encountered heavy machine gun fire on the right and lost a tank which was knocked out by enemy artillery. While the right advance was being strongly contested by the German 5th Parachute Division, destructive artillery fire held up the left.

The 47th got its attack under way at 1245 and by 1300 elements were astride the road north of Calentinerie and at 1500 had pushed the 1st Battalion southeast of le Mesnil-Rury. Reports indicated that prisoners taken from the 13th Parachute showed no visible effects of the bombing.

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By late afternoon the 60th was within the zone of its objective in the vicinity of Montreuil, and the 39th which was paced by the 1st Battalion had made good progress and reached the area north of Hebecrevon at 2100 and the 47th was north of the town. The enemy held no definite line despite his strong defensive action with the greatest resistance coming from the high ground to the west.

The enemy held up the 30th initially with heavy artillery concentrations along the main routes of advance, using tanks in assault gun roles and with his normal infantry fires. Later he attempted to mount a counterattack with 15 to 20 tanks but was stopped by our artillery north of RJ 86. The enemy front lines at the start of the attack constituted the MLR. Once the prepared positions there were passed progress was considerably faster and following a dive bomber attack at 1800 substantial gains were made.

When first stopped the 30th units maneuvered to the right in the zone of the 60th Infantry which had advanced rapidly to its first objective, and the 1st and 2nd of the 119th were able to make steady gains for a while. Meanwhile the 1st Battalion of the 39th had broken thru the enemy's lines and a general advance followed. The 120th after flanking to the west and advancing along the creek north of Hebecrevon was stopped and despite hard fighting was able to make no further advance until late in the period.

In the 4th Division zone of action the 8th Infantry did the day's fighting. Resistance from small arms and light automatic weapons was encountered in the customary hedgerow to hedgerow defense. Despite considerable gains, particularly in the center, enemy groups not overrun were contesting every inch of the ground.

The 8th moved off on time and at 1210 the 1st Battalion was on the Periers-St. Lo Road with the 3rd some 300 yards north, despite small arms and artillery fire estimated to be of 155mm calibre. The advance continued throughout the late afternoon and evening but only against determined defensive action. The Regiment reached the coordinates 415650-421650 at 2130 and after advancing another hundred yards stopped for the night.

Artillery-Air coordination was effective in the preparation for the ground attack. Counterflak missions were fired by the 183rd and 991st FA Battalions from H-95 to H-80 and four planes were on counterflak patrol but due to ground haze and smoke were able to pick up only one battery. With nine battalions in action 14 registrations were fired and 19 close-up support and 9 harassing missions. The 240 howitzers of the 551st and 552nd assisted the 9th Division Artillery and the 266th supported the 4th Division until 1100. The artillery from these two divisions fired 2256 and 2805 rounds respectively.

Corps Engineers had cleared routes A-B-C and D thru as far as the bomb safety line at 1100 and in continuing with the road repairs that would permit the rapid advance of armored units when the 2nd and 3rd Divisions were committed, the 1106th Combat Group reported craters 2½ feet deep and 8 to 10 feet in diameter every 150 feet along the way, but anticipated no great difficulty in completing their mission.

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From the some 200 prisoners taken during the day interrogation revealed that the bombings had a morale shattering effect. Some enemy prisoners could babble only incoherently and described the massed air attacks as unbearable. In describing the demoralizing effect of the raids men from the 902d Panzer Grenadier Regiment said their only hope was to come running to the American lines as they could not retreat. They further stated that their line was only lightly held and there is nothing in back to stop us. They reported the enemy had been moving troops around in attempts to fill gaps and avoid local penetrations by our troops.

Morale on the part of all, including noncommissioned officers, was very low and they said that none believe that a victory for them is still possible, and added that many would desert if they were not afraid of being shot by their officers in the day time and our troops at night.

Following the delay in the 9th's attack caused by bombing casualties in the 47th Infantry an investigation was ordered as the 30th Division had also suffered a number the previous day when 23 were reported killed and 67 wounded. Later figures compiled by G-1 showed that 144 Corps troops had been killed with total casualties running over 600 from aerial bombs falling short during the first three days of the attack. Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, who until recently had been AGF commander, was among those killed.

Although virtually unopposed by the Luftwaffe American Air Force losses were placed at 38 by the IX Tactical Air Command for the same three days. However, all these planes were not destroyed, but included all craft that were sufficiently damaged to keep them out of the air.

On 26 July the IX TAC continued its support of the ground attack. In addition to the dive bombers, six groups of medium bombers were overhead to furnish tactical support to the Corps attack, which was highlighted by the commitment of armored units for the first time for any large scale action when the 2nd and 3rd Divisions and the strongly reinforced 1st Infantry (Combat Command B, 3rd Armored attached) exploited the break-through achieved by the 4th, 9th, and 30th Infantry Divisions. The advancing armored columns were given continous overhead support. Air reported successful communications and coordination with ground troops.

The 2nd Armored Division crossed the Periers-St. Lo Road at 0945, delayed by difficult terrain, passed thru the 30th Infantry in its zone of action and made contact with the enemy at 1000 and continued steady progress against the foe. At 1030 the 3rd Battalion of the 66th Armored Regiment had engaged the enemy and he was forced to yield to the American attack as the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of this unit advanced. He was giving ground or being by-passed in isolated groups for the following detachments to mop up. The 66th Armored Regiment continued astride the road in the vicinity of Benardiere at 1215 and by 1400 reconnaissance elements (1st Battalion) were in St. Gilles. Combat Command A had a firm grip on the town at 1500 and also secured the road running east and west thru St. Gilles.

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After stopping to regroup, leading elements pushed reconnaissance to a line 1000 yards in front of their positions and moved south again at 1500. Mines and craters slowed the advance which continued with the head of the column reaching the railroad crossing just north of Canisy. No resistance was found and the Division Reserve started to move from the vicinity of la Mine to a new assembly area near St. Jean de Daye.

The condition of the roads and the terrain limited the advance of Combat Command A in its southern thrust. A further delay was caused when the column reached the railroad just north of Canisy where a 30 foot drop had to be overcome due to the blown bridge. The Division closed in assembly area at 2230 in the vicinity of Pont Hebert with CC "A" and elements of Regimental Combat Team 22 2000 yards south of Canisy on the main north and south road, an advance of 8 kilometers.

The 1st Division Combat Team 18 and mechanized units of Combat Command B (3rd Armored Division) lead the advance in the 1st Division zone and also made substantial gains in their drive thru the 9th to capture Marigny and the high ground south of the town. The attack jumped off on time, with the Division crossing the St. Lo Road at 0700 and passing thru the 9th and made steady progress. An enemy pocket of resistance south of Mesnil Durand was left for the following battalions to clean out. At CR 393660 (just north of Montreuil) the armored column of CC "B" was held up. Following a bombing and strafing mission the advance began to roll again. The 3rd Battalion of the 18th cleared out an enemy pocket of resistance east of Montreuil and at noon the Combat Team was at the crossroads between la Chapelle-en-Juger and les Herourad. CC "B" was slowed by craters on the road leading to Marigny in the area due east of Herourad but by 1440 were only 1 kilometer north of Marigny. The Combat Command by-passed the town with 3 task forces passing to the west.

Combat Team 18 engaged in a fire fight at 1900 and later elements entered Marigny and the town was occupied. CC "B" then went into assembly area to the west of the town after a day's advance of some 6 kilometers.

The 30th Infantry also made steady but slower progress to the south in the Corps' eastern sector and mopped up the bottleneck formed by the Vire River near St. Lo. The advance of the 117th and 119th Infantry Regiments was slowed by small arms fire from dug-in positions and heavy artillery and mortar fires from the vicinity of St. Gilles in the morning. The 117th moved forward with the 743d Tank Battalion meeting resistance shortly after 9 o'clock. The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 119th moved up at 1000 and were supported by the 743rd Tankers, and the 120th was passed thru by CC "A" of the 2nd Armored and moved to the division reserve. Division artillery fired counterbattery missions in support of the ground troops and when the 117th was again held up after only a slight advance, the 3rd Battalion moved thru Hebecrevon and attacked east enveloping the resistance that had been preventing the advance, and the Regiment again moved forward.

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After an advance of some four kilometers during the day the 119th at 2310 had reached its objective, the railroad near la Poterie and set to work cutting the St. Lo-Canisy line. The 117th went into bivouac near the road leading from St. Lo to Hebecrevon, about 2 kilometers west of the former place.

The 9th Division renewed the attack on the Corps right flank at 0700 and advanced slowly throughout the period against stiff opposition. The 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, led the drive, followed by the 3rd of the 39th. The 60th unit moved slowly to its objective and the 2nd and 3rd Battalions mopped up in its wake. At noon the 1st was halted. Elements of the 2nd and 3rd which had been passed thru by the 1st Division, continued to drive westward toward the objective. The 39th held a line along the stream west of the town of a Triboterie. By the end of the day the 60th had secured its objective in protecting the flank and the 1st Battalion was at Lozon, and the 3rd a mile south at la Torliniere with the 47th units deployed in the same general area and the 39th between la Butte and la Fosserie to the southeast and south. Gains for the day were about 1.5 kilometers.

Resuming the attack from due east of le Chapelle at 0800 the 4th Infantry encountered considerable resistance in small arms and sporadic artillery fire. Progress was slow until about 1800 when resistance lessened and the 8th Infantry Regiment's 1st and 3rd Battalions moved rapidly toward the objective. The 2nd Battalion was committed at 1700 and attacked between the 1st and 3rd and at 2400 were seizing the Division objective, advancing to la Couviniere, between Canisy and Marigny.

During the day the 12th remained in reserve and the 22nd was attached to the fast moving 2nd Armored as a RCT.

By nightfall of the 26th enemy resistance was largely broken in the Marigny area but even so the enemy was fighting back for every yard of the way. Meanwhile offensives were starting on either flank, both across the Seves, north of Periers and east of St. Lo on the 3rd Parachute Division front.

The next day (27 July) the enemy's positions were completely overrun and by evening we had reached Coutances (VIII Corps sector) though isolated pockets of resistance enroute were still holding out. Panzer "Lehr" and the 5th Parachute Divisions had been badly smashed. The latter continued to fight in traditional Parachute style and its Engineer Battalion was wiped out almost to a man after a fanatical stand.

The 2nd Pz Division moved west from near the Orne River and elements of the 2nd Panzer and 17th SS Pz Grenadier Division withdrew successfully to the area south of the line Coutances-Tessy sur Vire.

Only one request mission was flown by the IX Tactical Air Command on 27 July and the destruction of 20 vehicles, including tanks and two mobile 88mm guns was reported. This added to the destruction of enemy vehicles and armored units the day before as consolidated by the Air officer revealed staggering enemy losses at the hands of our bomber and fighter pilots.

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Armored column cover again proved successful as armed reconnaissance with the 2nd Division advancing after seizing its main objective and continuing on toward several secondary missions. The advance of the armored units of the Division had taken a sizable area away from the enemy against fairly strong resistance.

Against the rapid American thrusts the enemy could offer only light and scattered resistance on the Corps front except in the zone of the 9th Division where fairly stiff and organized opposition was encountered from elements of the 13th and 14th Parachute Regiments and 2nd Battalion of the 941st Infantry. A definite withdrawal took place on the 8th, 90th and 83rd Division fronts of the VIII Corps sector, and a rapid advance was made over the entire Corps front.

Although most enemy resistance was light and scattered, stubborn opposition was centered around a strong point south of Marigny. The bulk of his armor and motor transports withdrew in disorderly fashion to the south, principally on the Marigny-Coutances Road and Canisy-St. Denis la Gast Road. An estimated 100 enemy tanks and trucks moving southwest in the area la Chappelle (3059) - Savigny (3156) and Courcy (2755) were heavily bombed by the Air Forces and suffered severe casualties. Enemy artillery was very light by comparison with his fires of the previous days, and consisted primarily of interdictory fire on important crossroads. Many previously shelled points were hit again indicating that the fires were unobserved.

His units in action consisted of the 985th and 983rd Infantry Regiments of the 275th Division, 130th Pz "Lehr" remnants, 5th Parachute Division elements, 17th SS Panzer Grenadier Division remnants, the 353rd Infantry Division and the 942nd Infantry Regiment units.

Colonel Kentner, commanding officer of Battle Group Kentner was mortally wounded by small arms fire during the day and an unusual incident occurred at 1330 when an artillery officer and two enlisted men drove up in vehicles and surrendered to elements of the 3rd Armored Division.

Opposed by infantry reinforced by tanks and antitank guns the 2nd Armored advanced the left column to Fervaches (5049) and the right to 1 kilometer south of la Denisiere on the main road from le Mesnil Herman to Percy (443490) and the Combat Command was fighting in Notre Dame de Cenilly in the morning.

CC "A" continued the advance at 0945 and reached the division objective, St. Samson at 1000 with the terrain and terrible roads the biggest obstacle. CC "B" moved from assembly area in the vicinity of St. Jean de Daye toward its first objective in single column to the vicinity of Canisy and there split into two columns; the left moving by the route generally one mile east and south of the right on the main road and at 1600 were going toward Villebaudon and Tessy Sur Vire. Resistance by German infantry, tanks and mortars was overcome with only minor losses.

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Meanwhile elements of the 82nd Reconnaissance Battalion had reached the phase line, "Banna" and at 1200, Cerisy la Salle. A company from the 22nd Infantry secured Hill 183 and at 1230 the 67th Armored Regiment (CC "B") was a mile southwest of Canisy. CC "B" continued its southwest push and at 1630 reported light opposition and the advance moving as rapidly as possible. At the same time the "A" Combat Command was pushing reconnaissance in force from its objective, and moving south and southwest from le Mesnil Herman. As late as 2230 the 67th Armored Regiment was fighting in Notre Dame de Cenilly. At the end of the period the Combat Commands had organized positions for the night and prepared to resume the attack at first light. CC "A" had advanced 5½ miles and CC "B" 12.

Exploitation by armored elements of the reinforced 1st Division also developed favorably as did the 3rd Armored Division, less CC "B" which was attached to the 1st. Combat Command "A" crossed the line of departure at 0630 and made steady progress although somewhat slow until 1200 when stopped by an enemy strong point in the vicinity of St. Benoit. At the same time the heads of two columns had points a mile southwest and west of Marigny respectively, and were continuing the advance. Leading elements of the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion were a mile south of Marigny on the St. Gilles-Coutances Highway (389608), and Combat Command A was passing thru the 4th Division, prepared to drive southeast in the Division zone.

Combat Command A by-passed the strong point at St. Benoit to the southeast. By 1800 the advance had reached Quibou. Later Task Force "X" had reached le Sault. Little other advance was made due to AT guns and poor road conditions. CC "A" pushed more than a 1000 yards southwest of Quibou and cut across the Canisy-Tessy sur Vire Road.

During the night the Germans moved the 983rd Infantry Regiment up to plug the gap between the 13th and 14th Parachute Regiments on the 1st Division front. With Combat Command B of the 3rd Armored still attached the 1st Infantry continued the attack, completing the occupation and capture of Marigny and advanced south and southwest of the town. The enemy held strong points in the southern portion of Marigny, which was entered from the north with the 18th Infantry clearing out enemy resistance. The 4th Cavalry covered the Division rear. Some 2000 yards south of the town the Regiment was held up by pillboxes until late in the afternoon. In the afternoon a number of tanks were knocked out in the vicinity of la Chapelle. At 1400 CC "B" reported meeting only little resistance. Enemy infantry supported by tanks were unsuccessful in attempting a small scale counterattack.

The 8th Infantry holding the 4th Division front was employed generally along the railroad from Carantilly to Canisy. Patrols were south along the rails after moving east from Marigny to south of la Couviniere toward Carantilly and then seized and held the high ground on a line from that town to Quibou, continuing along the Soigne River to the east in the Division zone of action.

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After several days in reserve the 12th Infantry was ordered from their assembly area in the vicinity of le Mesnil-Amey to attack and drive the enemy out of the woods to the north of the road running from la Chapelle-Canisy. The 1st Battalion was employed and the 2nd dispatched to St. Benoit where they mopped up an enemy strong point. The 3rd Battalion relieved an 8th unit on the Division objective northwest of Maupertuis.

On the Corps' left flank the 30th Division continued the attack and gained and occupied all its objectives except the southernmost which was strongly held. At the end of the day the Division was only three kilometers from its final objective, and was advancing rapidly toward it after having cleared the area west of the Vire River and St. Lo. Troops were pushed southeast at 0900 to secure the east flank from penetration. The three Regiments of the Division struck together with the 117th, 119th and 120th abreast. The latter unit in advancing encountered only isolated groups of resistance as la Manoir was passed and the 3rd Battalion went thru les Rebours. The 1st Battalion pushed the 2nd in an advance that carried to the north of St. Romphaire and thence across a tributary of the Vire. Numerous hamlets in the area were cleared and the bridge at la Pouchiniere was captured at 1630 in the day's advance.

Prisoners captured by the Division were reported in "bad shape" from the bombings and said another such bombing and all Germans in France would quit.

Of all six Divisions in action on the Corps front during the day the 9th encountered the most stubborn resistance over on the right flank. General Eddy's command continued the attack at 0700 to hold the west flank of penetration. The 2nd Battalion of the 39th Regiment made a slight attack and secured RJ 377640 and then resumed the push toward the assigned objective. The unit moved without opposition to Potigny and continued against strong opposition to the stream line south of the Paper Mill and thence to Marie where a counterattack estimated at company strength supported by 4 tanks (elements of 1-2 Cos., 942d Inf, and 3d Btry, 5th AT Bn) was repulsed with very heavy enemy losses. The 3rd Battalion attacking toward its objective west, moved thru la Buissonnerie and on order continued against strong opposition to the stream where on the third attempt the Battalion crossed and secured positions along the line south of la Rocher to the vicinity of Drieauderie. The 1st Battalion moved from the assembly area near le Mesnil-Bury to vicinity of CR 377664, sending one company to cut the road near la Fosserie.

While the 47th remained in their previous position the 60th Infantry renewed the attack and the 1st Battalion reached the objective at 1200 and was occupied throughout the late afternoon and evening with the preparation and consolidation of positions. The 2nd Battalion established strong points on Hill 55 (vicinity of Lozon) and a RJ south of Lozon and a roadblock at the bridge south of la Buissonnerie.

Resistance during 28 July consisted mainly of strong rear guard forces left behind to protect and keep open the escape routes around Coutances for the fleeing Germans. Southwest of la Chapelle small arms and mortar fire produced the strongest opposition to the Corps' advance. The IX Tactical Air Command

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had another big day of bombing and strafing with over 80 German Tanks reported destroyed or damaged in addition to several hundred other vehicles as U. S. planes swarmed over the crowded escape route of the enemy.

The 30th Division possed to control of the XIX Corps at 1200 along with Combat Command A of the 2nd Armored Division together wit its attached units including Regimental Combat Team 22. Intercorps boundaries were changed accordingly.

Despite its reduced size the 2d Armored continued to make further inroads into enemy held terrority, seizing the day's objective----St. Denis la Gast and by nightfall made reconnaissance in force as far as the vicinity of Camery (2647) and west of Lengronne (2443).

In continuing their southern advance the 2nd made steady progress throughout the morning employing three columns, although hindered and slowed up at times by the terrain and roads. At about 1200 stiff resistance was encountered at Villebaudon. CC A passed to XIX Corps after capturing the town, one of its assigned missions.

Combat Command B advanced on its axis from Canisy against light to medium opposition and made steady progress also. Reconnaissance elements of the Combat Command were at St. Denis la Gast at 1430 where heavy resistance was offered for the first time that day, and later at about 1730 the enemy launched a counterattack from the northwest in the direction of la Hongrie. The attack was supported by mortars and tanks in an attempt to cut the axis of CC B. The Division Reserve was ordered from the assembly area south of Canisy and succeeded in repelling the counter attack by 2100 and then continued to maintain positions to protect the Combat Command's axis throughtout the period. Meanwhile CC B and its columns were probing west and south with reconnaissance in force as far as Camery and Legronne, some 3-4 miles away.

Combat Command A of the 3d Armored Division swung out with its three "X", "Y", and "Z", to amke gains of 6 to 8 kilometers. Task Force "Z" was employed on the west, "Y" to the south, and "X" in the center of the Division zone. TF "X" was divided into three combat teams, each consisting of a tank company and infantry company. Moderate opposition was encountered by all elements. The 16 Infantry cleared out a pocket of enemy resistance south of Marigny at 0930 after a stiff encounter. The main opposition to the armored columns' advance was furnished by infantry troops and AT Guns with scattered groups of tanks.

By 2200 hours TF "Z" had reached a point 500 yards west of Lauderie; "X" was approaching Montipinchon from the north and east with its elements, and "Y" was moving south between la Saubogerie and Mont Brocard with the mission of approaching the enemy positions of Montipinchon from the south. At midnight "Z" was continuing to the west and "X" and "Y" were moving into position to launch a coordinated attack on Montipinchon and the strong points located on the surrounding commanding ground early the next morning. Hundreds of prisoners were taken by the Division units during the day, including more than 50 German officers, and the entire Medical Company oa an SS Panzer units.

The 1st Infantry Division with Combat Command B of the 3d Armored Still attached continued the elimination of enemy resistance within the Division zone and consolidation of positions and also made contact with elements from the VIII Corps near Coutances.

Enemy resistance in the Division sector was mainly from the south and west

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in an effort to protect the escape corridor which hinged around Coutances. The 1st took its assigned objectives and prevented the escape south of disorganized enemy forces. During the night the "Der Feuhrer" Infantry of the 2d SS pulled out of the line and were reported in the vicinity of Cerisy La Salle. Heavy artillery was reported in back of that town and intelligence reported that many SS Troops had been retreating thru la Selle during the past two days. Despite these developments the 1st had a fairly quiet morning. The 18th Infantry took and held assigned objectives including the high ground east of la Taute River in the general area north of Camprond extending east to the 36th grid line. The 2d Battalion strengthened its positions near Camprond and patrolled north, west and south. About 4 o'clock the Regiment completed its mission and consolidated positions in the vicinity of Camprond.

Combat Command B was attacking along the road from north of la Chapelle at 1100 and an hour later made contact with Combat Team 16 and leading elements advanced 1000 yards northeast of Cambernon and moved to their objective. Task Force 1 was pushing steadily northwest of Belval and TF 2 was 1500 yards further west. By 1800 elements were in Coutances. As night closed on the day's operations CC "B" was "leaguring" still further to the southwest when last reported at 2200 and the Division CP was established northwest of la Chapelle at 2400.

During the day the 4th Cavalry Squadron and 1st Engineer Battalion units erected road blocks and mined the avenues of escape leading south to cut off retreating enemy forces. The Cavalrymen and Engineers continued their work to the west throughout the day and crossed the Terette River and at the close of the period were respectively northwest of la Blanchetiere and la Herbiere with the 1st Reconnaissance Troop of the former organization in the area west of Gusney.

After eliminating small pockets of enemy resistance the 4th Infantry moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of Notre Dame de Cenilly late in the afternoon. In the forenoon the 8th Infantry attacked with two Battalions abreast in clearing the road between Montreuil and Carantilly of enemy resistance. Other objectives had been completed by 1100. The 12th employed two battalions in clearing the wooded area north of Carantilly and also liquidated an enemy pocket in the vicinity of la Benoit. On the road march to Notre Dame Company I acted as rear guard.

The 39th Regiment of the 9th Infantry Division continued occupation and mopping up assignments during the morning and at 1500 the 1st Battalion made contact with elements of the 4th Cavalry at le Loray. The 2nd Battalion attacked south and reached objective "E" at 1330 and the 3rd consolidated the balance of objective "D", which the 1st had passed thru in the morning. The 47th was inactive and the 60th remained in their previous position. All contact with the enemy was broken when he cleared the Division front at 1500 with the 3rd Battalion of the 39th then in the vicinity of le Mesnil Vigot. All objectives having been taken the Division units began assembling prior to reverting to Corps reserve after having spent the last 19 days on the front lines and 38 out of the 45 days since the Division was first committed to action on 14 June.

Over 2100 prisoners were taken during the day boosting the Corps total for the past four days to more than 4000.

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American air-ground coordination reached a superior degree of efficiency on 29 July when the VII Corps continued their advance south and west, eliminating enemy resistance and imposing crippling losses to enemy transport and armored vehicles. Armed air reconnaissance closely cooperating with 2nd Armored units "ganged up" on German columns streaming southeastward in an attempt to escape, and destroyed or damaged between 900 and 1000 tanks, self-propelled guns, and other vehicles.

Following the original break-through by the Infantry of the 9th, 30th and 4th between Marigny and St. Gilles with the former two Divisions peeling back to allow armored units to pass thru and exploit the advantage, the enemy was trapped under increasing pressure exerted by the 2nd Armored blocking his escape southeastward by holding a line that extended from St. Denis la Gast to Lengronne and Sienne River with the 3rd Armored Division and the 1st Infantry, reinforced with armored units, punching at him from the west, northwest and north, and VIII Corps armored columns checking his movement in other directions from Coutances.

This was the set-up that ground forces created for their air support, with the enemy forces contained in the St. Denis la Gast-Coutances-Montipinchon area attempting unsuccessfully to withdraw. In his disorganized and almost frantic attempts to escape, all of which were thrown back with heavy loss, several roads were jammed with vehicles, particularly the secondary road between Roncey and St. Denis la Gast where transports of all types including guns and tanks were triple banked, bumper to bumper, in some places.

Thunderbolts (P-47s) in six groups, using 500 pound bombs with liberal strafing missions left a string of dead and vehicular wreckage unsurpassed on the First Army front. Statistics compiled by IX Tactical Air Command reveal that 137 tanks were destroyed in addition to 58 damaged and one probable claim, and 523 other vehicles destroyed, 87 more damaged and 9 probables. Added to these staggering losses were those caused by armored units and artillery fire.

Colonel Jesse Hawkins, G-2 of the 2nd Armored Division, after personally inspecting the Roncey-St. Denis la Gast trap said he believed his earlier estimate of 500 vehicles trapped a modest one. Vehicles were from the 2nd SS, 243rd, 17th SS and 5th Parachute Divisions and possibly others. Bulldozers were used by our troops to clear the enemy bodies that littered the road. A conservative estimate of casualties caused by the 2nd Armored Division was placed at 4,500 by G-2. There were numerous staff cars and headquarters cars in the Roncey-St. Denis la Gast area and both American and French looting took place, before a thorough search could be made of the section.

With Combat Command B of the 2nd Armored Division pushing leading elements to Blanchard, east of the Sienne River, a series of road blocks was established all along the way to St. Denis la Gast and later strong points were organized at la Jourdanniere on the River and in the vicinity of St. Denis la Gast.

The main body of the Combat Command was concentrated between Crossroads (106), southeast of Roncey and St. Denis la Gast which extended the Command's line from Notre Dame le Cenilly to the Sienne, a distance of more than 10 miles. The enemy although not seeking to fight then, but merely to get out in order to

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form new defensive positions to the south was able to achieve some infantry infiltration, which was acknowledged in a message of the 2nd Armored. Due to lack of infantry support the CC "B" units were forced off some blocks and the following message sent: "Imperative 4th Division move to support troops southwest Notre Dame to prevent escape".

Effective Division Artillery fire was used in defense of the blocks and with the arrival of supporting forces from the 4th the enemy was cut off and additional road blocks established along Canisy-Notre Dame-Cerences line. He attempted to mount a counterattack in the area northeast of la Corbiniere (352510) in the direction of Notre Dame le Cenilly. German resistance was generally along the line east of la Mare Alix - northwest of St. Martin de Cenilly and the vicinity of RJ 3552. It was rapidly reduced and with the 3rd Armored CC "A" slicing diagonally to the southwest into the enemy during the afternoon he was pounded by armor, tanks and fighter-bombers with devastating effect.

Later the 82nd Reconnaissance Battalion advanced to seize crossings over the Sienne between Ecuadeville and Gaby and CC "B" continued along the line of its axis, all objectives having been secured.

All elements of Combat Command A, 3rd Armored Division reached their objectives in their thrust. Task Forces "X" and "Y" did not launch a coordinated attack on Montpinchon due to the presence of many enemy tanks in the area. After air and artillery support against the tanks "X" advanced to the west, and by-passed the town to the north. One battle group of TF "X" proceeded thru Montpinchon, in mopping operations. "Y" proceeded west and by-passed the town to the south. "Y" then pushed on to Roncey. Meanwhile Task Force "Z" made a bridgehead across the Soulle in the vicinity of the area southwest of Belval (305555) and reached that town at 1600. Delay was encountered due to coordinating the attack on Belval with the attack of elements of the 1st Division on Courcey. "Z" continued west and at the end of the day all elements of CC "A" were closed in assembly area positions except one battle group of "Y" which was enroute, bringing to a close a brilliant series of tank maneuvers.

Combat Command "B" reverted to Division control at 290930B but remained on their objective north of Camberon until 1100 at which time they were ordered to assembly area position east of le Villederie.

The 1st Division cleared out enemy resistance to the Soulle River. RCT 26, less the 2nd Battalion, moved at about 2000 to attachment to the 4th Infantry. The remainder of the Division assembled in preparation to move to Corps Reserve on 30 July.

During the day the 16th had been in contact with the enemy since 0045 and patrols were out all night probing enemy positions. The 3rd Battalion had advance elements as far west as la Mignarderie with the 1st moving down the main road from Camberon in the morning. Only light resistance was encountered and by 1305 the 3rd was enroute to the area west of la Vulgnardiere where they met their

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only stiff encounter; the 2nd was then south of la Provostiere with patrols out to the south, and the 1st Battalion was moving west and then south enroute to the vicinity of la Guignardiere also. The Regiment continued to sweep south to the river mopping up the intervening area. Later the 1st was just north of Coursey, the 2nd at Belval at 2000, and the 3rd on the road southwest of la Mignarderie after having contact with elements of the 3rd Armored and 4th Armored of the VIII Corps. At the end of the period they reported they were awaiting further orders to exploit the break-through.

The 4th Division during the day moved to and secured the area Notre Dame-les Centilly-St. Martin-le Bourg-Maupertuis from enemy infiltration from the north. At 0600 I Company of the 8th Infantry Regiment supported the attack on Pont Brocard. The 1st and 2nd Battalions took up defensive positions later in the day along the road Notre Dame, les Centilly, GR 341457, point on the road at 357453 (near la Chaussee) to prevent enemy from retreating from the north-west. A number of small enemy groups were encountered within the area moving south. Some prisoners were captured and other forces contained.

Combat Team 12 attacked at 0900, two battalions abreast, to secure the road between Leburg and Maupertuis. The objective was reached and held at 1100 without opposition. The 2d cleaned out what resistance was encountered in Le-bourg in the late afternoon. The 1st Battalion moved unopposed to the high ground 2 kilometers southwest of la Vanterie and road blocks and demolitions placed on roads leading into the area.

Hambye and la Chasse Doriere were occupied by the 12th Infantry with very little opposition. Troops of the 9th moved to Corps reserve in the vicinity of St. Benoit, bringing to a close the operations of the Corps for the period in which approximately 1200 prisoners were taken as against a total of 316 casual-ties from all sources for all Corps troops.

Enemy resistance north of the line St. Denis la Gast-Lengronne ceased early the morning of 30 July with one final attempted break-through by trapped elements of the 2nd SS "Das Reich" Division which resulted in a severe loss in both personnel and vehicles to the Germans.

The 3rd Armored advance elements were held up at Gavray by a bridge the enemy destroyed and the blocking of most roads south from vicinity of 306526 by destroyed enemy vehicles. Considerable resistance was encountered from small arms, and mortar fire beyond Gavray where the enemy had thrown together a hur-ried defense just north of the Sienne River. Only light artillery fire was delivered by the Germans and TAC Reconnaissance reported many foot troops and vehicles moving east on all roads from Avranches on the west coast.

Elements of the 3rd Division crossed the LD at 0530 and advanced to the south against light resistance. At 0945 reconnaissance groups had reached the bridge at Gavray which had been destroyed. CC "A" moved south at 1010 and were

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delayed due to the extensive blocking of roads by destroyed enemy vehicles and equipment at Roncey, together with moderate resistance. By 1200 infantry elements of TF "Z" had crossed the Sienne at 310410, upstream from Gavray, and secured a bridgehead in the face of heavy mortar and machine gun fire, while elements of "X" were pinned down on the down river side of the town at 280410-300410. The attack continued until after dark and resulted in a bridge being constructed.

Forward elements of Combat Command B advanced south, making steady progress throughout the day against light opposition and by 1530 were fording the Sienne at La Sayerie. That evening at 2045 reconnaissance elements were on the Division objective west of Villedieu-les-Poels and a bridge had been built across the river by Engineers.

CC "B" and the 82nd "Recon" Battalion of the 2nd Armored continued mopping up operations. At 0230 an enemy armored column entered the town of St. Denis la Gast and proceeded west toward Lengronne. Upon reaching the 78th Armored Field Artillery Battalion area direct fire was brought to bear on the Germans at a range of 175 yards by .50 calibre machine guns, 37 and 105mm guns, and a M-10 of Company C, 702nd Tank Destroyer Battalion, took up position and permitted the enemy column to pass then brought direct fire on its rear. The result was all vehicles destroyed and most of the personnel killed, wounded or captured.

At approximately 0230 the 2nd Battalion of the 67th Armored Regiment engaged an enemy column proceeding from north to south near its area and destroyed many vehicles. The fight continued until almost daylight and enemy snipers were active in the area throughout the period. During the afternoon of 30 July about 40 tanks made a violent attack against elements of CC "A" at Villebaudon. The attack was successfully repulsed. At 2400 all elements were preparing to move to assembly area east of Notre Dame le Cenilly as soon as the 1st Division had closed in its assembly area.

The 4th Division, minus RCT 22, but with the 26th of the 1st Division attached, continued its advance also. Delay was occasioned by the counterattack incurred by the XIX Corps near the Division east flank. Heavy mortar fire and some artillery were also encountered during the day. The 8th Infantry protected the west flank of the Division from le Bourg to the vicinity of Penetiere and at 1235 moved to the assembly area as Division Reserve.

The 12th attacked at 1100, two battalions abreast----the 2nd on the right and the 1st on the left, to seize the high ground in the vicinity of Mancelliere. The attack was opposed by moderate small arms and mortar fire that increased in intensity as the attack progressed. The 26th Combat Team jumped off at 1100 too, attacking in a column of battalions to secure the high ground around Mesnil Bonant. By 2000 they had reached their objective and initiated mopping up operations northwest to the Sienne.

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was in the zone of action of the 12th and 26th from daylight to 1100 at which time the Squadron assembled in the rear of the 12th and then furnished contact patrols between the two Infantry Regiments and searched out the area for isolated groups of enemy.

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The 16th Infantry moved via la Chapelle, Cerisy la Salle, Notre Dame le Cenilly, southwest to la Penetiere, St. Martin, CR 342476 to a new attack assembly area near St. Denis la Gast at 1920 as the 1st Infantry prepared to renew the attack on the morning of 31 July.

Army Air Forces again supplied armed reconnaissance for the Corps and again had a big part in the day's successful operations with 57 tanks KOed and some 281 other miscellaneous vehicles destroyed, while losing only 3 craft shot down. While the VII Corps was thus occupied the VIIIth got its attack rolling in conjunction with ours and begain a rapid drive down the coast, by-passing Granville and pushing the 4th Armored Division to Avranches. The next day the VIII Corps continued its advance and occupied Avranches, Pontaubaullt and Ducey.

Meanwhile on 31 July the VIIth was putting the finishing touches on this phase of Operation "Cobra". The 1st Division renewed the attack and with Combat Command "A" of the 3rd Armored attached, attacked southeast against only scattered resistance, advancing about 16 kilometers.

The reinforced 1st after moving to the new attack assembly area near St. Denis la Gast during the night, swung out at 1000 to capture the high ground south of the river in the vicinity of Brecey. By midnight TF "X", consisting of a battalion of tanks and a battalion of infantry held the objective. CT 18 closed in the attack assembly area near St. Denis la Gast at 0145. Reconnaissance was pushed to the Sienne River and the 32nd grid in the Regimental zone of action, and found the bridge was out, but reported by 0720 that the river was fordable for both troops and vehicles. At 0740 no contact had been made with either enemy or friendly troops. The 1st Battalion moved out ten minutes later to clean up in the center of the Division zone of action. By 0820 reconnaissance had brought back the intelligence that the bridge at 322427 was intact, and using this crossing the 18th sent patrols across the river. Without great difficulty the objective was reached and they closed on Legard at 2300.

The 3rd Armored was further stripped of its line outfits by the attachment of Combat Command B to the 4th Infantry. CC "B" moved against sporadic resistance to within 1500 yards north of Villedieu-les-Poeles. At 1130 the 2nd Battalion of the 8th moved to the area northwest of Percy to protect the left flank of the Division. At noon the remainder of the Regiment moved to the same vicinity and the 12th attacked three battalions abreast. Steady advances were made against determined resistance. At the close of the period the units had advanced as follows: CC "B" 1, south of la Badiniere; CC "B" 2, northeast of la Faye; 1st Battalion of 12th, coordinates, 393356; 2nd Battalion 12th, southwest of la Clementiere, and the 2nd of the 8th on the road leading to le Blouet, southwest of Percy, representing gains of about 6 kilometers.

With the close of July also ended operations under Field Order No. 6, for on the 31st, new intercorps boundaries were effected again with the VIIth shifting southeastward and on 1 August F.O. 7 was issued to the VII Corps.

Thus after three weeks of little progress in the hedgerows of Normandy, the Corps in one mighty drive during the past seven days had pushed some 40 to 50 kilometers, and burst completely clear of the base of the Cotentin Peninsula,

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advancing to the more aopen terrain where ever increasing freedom of movement would mean even greater progress, while at the same time operating successfully in conjunction with the VIII Corps to the west and paving the way for the VIIIth to drive down the coast, which would permit entrance of the Third Army, and additional American armored units to roll up the German flank in a sweep that would have a decisive bearing on the outcome of the struggle.

By the evening of the 28th July the enemy's front opposite the First Army had been penetrated to a depth of some 18 miles on a twenty mile front since the start of operations four days ago. In the coastal sector the Germans could do little or nothing to stem the tide of advance, and all that he could hope for was to extricate his better class troops and leave his infantry to their fate.

(VIII Corps)

At 1400 hours on 30 July VIII Corps armor had reacheu Avranches. Since then the enemy was able to offer practically no resistance in the extreme western sector Meanwhile the 2d Panzer Division came into the lines in the Tessy area, as first installments of his pivot to cover the withdrawl south and enable the 3d Parachute Division to pull out from north of Torigny in an orderly fashion; while around Percy the arrival of the 116th Pz Division on the 30th prevented a further breakthrough.

The 2d Army (British) offensive at Caumont started on 30 July and went rather slowly at the begining due largely to extensive minefields. In spite of this the offensive made about 5 miles progress the first day against the 326th Infantry Division.

On the following day a new identification was made by the Americans at Villedieu. The 363d Infantry Division, long expected, finally made its appearence. The 2d and 116th Panzer Divisions were still strongly resisting in the Percy-tessy Sector. On the British front the 21st Panzer was contacted just west of Beny Bocage, having been rushed from east of the Orne, in order to deny us the high ground west of Mont Pincon and the approach to the south up the valley of the Vire. Its attempt to carry out this task was not very successful, and our advance progressed, a gap began opening up between the 3d Parachute and 326th Infantry Divisions in the area the Foret l'Eveque and the 21st Pz had to be used to fill this gap and at the same time prop up the flanks of both the other Divisions as they withdrew

The past week of accomplishment was not achieved without cost. Some 4,500 casualties were listed among VII Corps troops. The total set for July be G-1 was 2,286 killed; 13101 wounded; 1,855 missing, and 23 captured--a total of 17,267. This coupled with the 21,949 sustained in the initial landings and Cherbourg campaign brought the Corps total to slightly less than 40,000. (G-1 count was 39,209) for 56 days of fighting. This embraced the operations of 11 Divisions and numerous other Corps troops with the VIIth.

Prisoners taken by the VII Corps in the past week were about 8,500 boosting the total count of captives to over 50,000.

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STATISTICS OF THE IX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND IN SUPPLYING ARMED RECONNAISSANCE FOR OPERATION "COBRA" IN CONJUNCTION WITH GROUND TROOPS OF THE VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY, 26 - 31 JULY, 1944, INCL:

Day	-----TANKS----- Destroyed	Damaged	Probable	-------OTHER VEHICLES-------- Destroyed	Damaged	Probable
26th	43	24	3	93	22	4
27th	61	63	6	26	88	12
28th	48	32	3	334	69	2
29th	137	58	1	523	83	9
30th	57	29	1	281	87	10
31st	16	10	2	80	31	2
Totals	362	216	16	1337	380	29

594*

1856-2450

Includes: self-propelled guns

Miscellaneous:

124 horse-drawn vehicles destroyed; 71 gun positions destroyed; 11 trains and locomotives, not including freight cars; warehouses, goods wagons, road-junctions, railroad bridges and highway bridges; 22 attacks on troops; 23. Enemy craft destroyed; 1 ammunition dump.

Air Corps Planes Destroyed (Day by Day):

26th, 2; 27th, 6; 28th, 4 and 4 probable; 29th, 1; 30th, 5; 31st, 1. Total, 19. (38 were lost the first three days, 25th Thru 28th, but all not necessarly destroyed. Some grounded for repairs, due to flak, etc.)

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L K:RJS:etb

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
A. P. O. 307, U.S.Army

1 August 1944

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

ASSIGNMENT	NAME	RANK	ASN	BRANCH	COMPONENT
COMMANDING GENERAL	J LAWTON COLLINS	Maj Gen	05247	USA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	HERMAN W W LANGE	Maj	023402	FA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	JOHN J WALSH	Capt	0391208	FA	RES
CHIEF OF STAFF	RICHARD G McKEE	Col	011217	GSC	RA
Deputy Chief of Staff	HOWARD S SEARLE	Col	0123165	GSC	NG
Liaison Off	GIBSON S PETERSON	Maj	0363994	Cav	RES
Liaison Off	WALTER W DILLARD	Capt	0327063	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	(1)JOHN R HOLLINSHEAD	Capt	0327349	CE	RES
Liaison Off	(1)JAMES C JOHNSON.	Capt	0304772	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES W GORMAN	Capt	0285768	FA	RES
Liaison Off	(1)JACOB L CONNERS	Capt	01000338	AGD	AUS
Liaison Off	(1)JOSEPH B KILLGORE	1st Lt	0392409	FA	RES
Liaison Off	NELSON C EATON	1st Lt	0453543	FA	AUS
Liaison Off	CHARLES I BALCER	1st Lt	01290530	Inf	AUS
Chief Clerk	WILLIAM B MADDOCK	WOJG	W2131284	USA	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-1	JOHN D HIGGINS	Col	0152349	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	EDWARD M FRIEND Jr	Lt Col	0310219	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE E POWLES	Maj	0703793	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE M RISER	Capt	0228767	FA	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	(1)ELBERT E LASHER	2d Lt	01011104	Inf	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-2	LESLIE D CARTER	Col	010663	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2	WILLIAM C JESSE	Maj	0302392	Cav	NG
Asst A C of S G-2 Air O	KENNETH L HOUSTON	Maj	0326319	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	CARL J WILSON	Capt	0383386	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	HERBERT E CLARK	1st Lt	01293913	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	IGNACE L EPHRUSSI	2d Lt	0574526	AC	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	CHARLES J BRUCKEN	2d Lt	01002589	AGD	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	PRESTON M MARKWARD	WOJG	W2131280	USA	AUS
	IPW TEAM #31				
	(1)WALTER GUNTHER Jr	1st Lt	01045763	CAC	AUS
	(1)OSCAR RECHTSCHAFFEN	2d Lt	01323738	Inf	AUS
	IPW TEAM #16				
	(1)PETER J LERT	2d Lt	01032594	Cav	AUS
	(1)MAX SCHLOSSBERG	2d Lt	01162701	FA	AUS
	PI TEAM #10				
	(1)LOUIS BATT	Capt	01045664	CAC	AUS
	(1)MORRIS GLASS	1st Lt	01994434	AUS	AUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L

APPENDIX B

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Directory of Officers, Hq VII Corps,
1 Aug 1944, continued

	OB UNIT #6				
	(1)ALEXANDER BLAZEVICIUS	2d Lt	01296983	Inf	AUS
	MI TEAM #414				
	(1)CHARLES G WHITING	1st Lt	0514736	FA	RES
	(1)ALEX MOORE	2d Lt	02040963	AUS	AUS
	MI TEAM #419				
	(1)PIERRE P La BRECHE	2d Lt	01303258	Inf	AUS
	IPW TEAM #44				
	(1)ADAM J EISENHAUER	1st Lt	0393829	CAC	RES
	PI TEAM #29				
	(1)THOMAS R CORREAL	1st Lt	01110429	CE	AUS
	(1)PATSY M MIRAGLIA	2d Lt	01591321	QMC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-3	ORLANDO C TROXEL Jr	Lt Col	018487	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-3 (Air O)	THURSTON T PAUL Jr	Lt Col	0342848	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	OWEN H CARTER	Maj	0334312	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	BERGIN V DICKEY	Maj	0360244	Inf	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	JOHN W STARK	Maj	0380508	CAC	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	MED R DICKSON	Capt	0389040	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	FRANCIS B MOBLEY Jr	Capt	0390599	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	(1)ROLAND G RUPPENTHAL	Capt	01309100	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-3	NICHOLAS McINTIRE	2d Lt	01049982	CAC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-4	JAMES G ANDING	Col	015677	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-4	(1)WILLIS H ROSS	Maj	0270426	CE	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	THOMAS N FIGUERS	Maj	0398172	FA	NG
Asst A C of S G-4	LEA C ROBERTS	Maj	0349693	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	IRA J HOLTON	Maj	0453734	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	JACK W WEEDEN	1st Lt	01290691	Inf	AUS
ADJUTANT GENERAL	LAWTON BUTLER	Col	016921	AGD	RA
Asst AG	JACKSON C RAINES	Lt Col	0264141	AGD	RES
Asst AG	ROBERT J SMITH	Maj	0348305	AGD	NG
Asst AG	FRED O BERGMAN	Capt	01000913	AGD	AUS
Postal Off	(3)JAMES A DOLAN	1st Lt	01297855	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	EARL M WILLIAMS	CWO	W2114245	USA	AUS
Asst AG	(2)CARL A ALIFANO	WOJG	W2109898	USA	AUS
	5th MRU (M)				
Asst AG	HAROLD K DOWNEY	Capt	01283046	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	FRANCIS L GUILFOYLE	1st Lt	01001796	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	WILLIAM H MUSSER Jr	2d Lt	01002998	AGD	AUS

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Directory of Officers, Hq VII Corps,
1 Aug 1944, continued.

INSPECTOR GENERAL	JOHN W NICHOLSON	Col	05608	IGD	RA
Asst IG	MILES N CULEHAN	Lt Col	0132387	IGD	NG
Asst IG	ROBERT L SNYDER	Maj	0303649	IGD	RES
Asst IG	LEONARD HOFFMAN	CWO	W2114256	USA	AUS
JUDGE ADVOCATE	RICHARD P WELCH	Col	0226556	JAGD	RES
Asst JA	EDWARD L VAN RODEN	Lt Col	0139956	JAGD	RES
QUARTERMASTER	PAUL E WARFIELD	Col	0246401	QMC	NG
Asst QM	JOHN C TAPP	Lt Col	0329067	QMC	RES
Asst QM	JOHN C HARRISON	Maj	0342679	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HERMAN B BOYLE Jr	Capt	0393313	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HARRY P HUTFLAS	1st Lt	01110576	QMC	AUS
Asst QM	(1)NED L ARCENEAUX	WOJG	W2109890	USA	AUS
SURGEON	ROBERT H BARR	Lt Col	0240710	MC	RES
Asst Surg	JAMES R FANCHER	Maj	0360582	MC	NG
Asst Surg	NORMAN C ROBISON	Capt	0472662	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	JOSEPH E BANKS	Capt	0496405	MAC	AUS
Chief Clerk	LAWRENCE A BECCO	CWO	W2114253	USA	AUS
FINANCE OFFICER	ELMER A STROM	Col	0232150	FD	NG
Asst Fin Off	ANDREW S DONNELLY	1st Lt	02040990	FD	AUS
Asst Fin Off	(2)LESLIE R YOCUM	CWO	W2109871	USA	AUS
CHEMICAL OFFICER	JACK A BARNES	Lt Col	0283115	CWS	RES
Asst Cml Off	IRWIN W SHUTT	Capt	0346833	CWS	RES
ENGINEER	MASON J YOUNG	Col	03788	CE	RA
Asst Engr	HENRY M BLACK	Lt Col	0259095	CE	RES
Asst Engr	GLENN H PLUMLEE	Maj	0352959	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ALBION W KNIGHT	Capt	0366716	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ROBERT M GILLESPIE	Capt	0364884	CE	RES
Asst Engr	PHILIP E SMITH	Capt	01102061	CE	AUS
ACTG ORDNANCE OFFICER	(1)JAMES D SAMS	Lt Col	018381	Ord Dept	RA
Asst Ord Off	STEVE J NEWTON Jr	Maj	0371040	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	RICHARD A GRINNELL	Capt	0392097	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	(1)JOHN SUNNTEK	Capt	0387454	Inf	RES
Asst Ord Off	SAMUEL M COHEN	Capt	0422951	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN C BELLOWS	Capt	0416205	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	WILLIAM D HALL Jr	WOJG	W2120959	USA	AUS
SIGNAL OFFICER	JOHN A SAWYER	Col	017177	Sig C	RA
Asst Sig Off	CHARLES T WESNER	Maj	0276309	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	HUGH SMITH	Capt	0351848	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	JOHN BRAWLEY	Capt	01634554	Sig C	AUS
Asst Sig Off	VICTOR G FLORENCE	CWO	W2109861	USA	AUS
CHAPLAIN	F HERBERT MOEHLMANN	Col	017986	Ch	RA
Asst Ch	PATRICK J GLEESON	Lt Col	0325091	Ch	RES
	SIDNEY M LEFKOWITZ (DS)	Capt	0471729	Ch	AUS

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Directory of Officers, Hq VII Corps,
1 Aug 1944, continued.

SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER	HENRY N HENRY	Maj	0246714	FA	RES
Asst Sp Sv Off	ROBERT R WILSON	Maj	0289950	Inf	NG
PROVOST MARSHAL	(2)JOHN D BRADLEY Jr	Maj	0341714	Cav	RES
Asst PM	ADOLPH PIONTEK	Capt	0454090	Inf	AUS
Asst PM	(1)JOHN G PRATT Jr	Capt	01051335	CAC	AUS
Asst PM	EARL W MUMLEY	Capt	0354776	CMP	RES
Asst PM	ADRIAN P THOMPSON	1st Lt	01285564	Inf	AUS
Asst PM	ARTHUR B DILLASHAW	1st Lt	01796247	CMP	AUS
AIR SUPPORT PARTY OFF FR HQ IX FI COMD	(1)SIDNEY F BRODY	Maj	0428933	AC	NG
	(1)DAVID R McGOVERN	Maj	0393173	AC	RES
CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICER	DELL B HARDIN	Col	0171321	FA	NG
Deputy Civil Affairs Off	FRANK H McFARLAND	Lt Col	0190171	FA	NG
Asst Civil Affairs Off	(1)JOSEPH H BAYNARD	1st Lt	0301409	Inf	RES
DEML DET (atchd)					
COMMANDING OFFICER	JAMES K DORSETT Jr	Capt	0362283	Inf	RES
Executive	JOHN H HEMINWAY	1st Lt	01302652	Inf	AUS
	EDWARD C STOLLENWERCK	2d Lt	01304812	Inf	AUS
	CLAYMER SCHLUTER	2d Lt	01544090	AUS	AUS
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY VII CORPS					
COMMANDING OFFICER	LAWRENCE L LARSEN	Capt	0352065	Inf	RES
Executive Off	FREDERICK FERGUSON	Capt	0388735	Inf	RES
Property & Maint Off	GLENN TERRELL Jr	1st Lt	0442649	Inf	RES
Supply Off	SHERWOOD V GREGORY	1st Lt	01290694	Inf	AUS
Asst Supply Off	NORMAN FURMAN	2d Lt	01313085	Inf	AUS
Property & Maint Off	JOHN J McGEE	2d Lt	0532462	Inf	RES
Personnel Off	JAMES L HAYES	CWO	W2116181	USA	AUS
Mess Off	JAMES L WHITEHURST	CWO	W2109873	USA	AUS
Asst Supply Off	FREDERICK D HEIM	WOJG	W2116182	USA	AUS
Motor Off	MAX A LOOMIS	WOJG	W2109892	USA	AUS
PX Off	JAMES F BROWER	WOJG	W2116187	USA	AUS
MEDICAL DETACHMENT VII CORPS					
Medical Off	THEODORE S WRIGHT	Capt	0500245	MC	AUS
Dental Off	RUDOLPH J FALKIN	Capt	01689861	DC	AUS
DUTY UNANNOUNCED					
	(1)GRAEME G PARKS	Col	08323	Inf	RA
	(1)ROBERT J ROSA	Maj	0352011	Cav	RES
	(4)EVERET HEATH	1st Lt	01304211	Inf	
	(1)RANDALL M DuBOIS	Lt			USNR

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Directory of Officers, Hq VII Corps,
1 Aug 1944, continued.

AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD SUPERVISOR	JOHN A BUTLER
AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR	CHARLES C BROADDUS

Note: (1) indicates atchd to Hq VII Corps
(2) indicates asgd to Hq Co VII Corps
(3) CO 307th APU
(4) indicates asgd Hq VII Corps not yet joined

LAWTON BUTLER,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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:Auth: CG VII C :
:Init: mmJ :
:Date: 12 Aug 44:

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
APO 307 U. S. Army

12 August 1944

APPENDIX #3

DAILY CASUALTY LIST OF VII CORPS, U.S. ARMY, 1 - 31 JULY, 1944, INC'L

Day	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTAL
1	22	142	6	0	170
2	5	8	1	0	14
3	1	17	0	0	18
4	51	834	530	0	1415
5	87	705	80	0	872
6	94	633	30	0	757
7	97	638	127	0	862
8	85	326	125	1	537
9	40	277	38	0	355
10	124	714	186	2	1026
11	145	723	60	0	928
12	114	554	49	0	717
13	119	543	38	0	700
14	59	333	74	0	466
15	60	612	21	0	693
16	108	508	15	3	634
17	97	688	31	0	816
18	59	241	13	0	313
19	35	288	37	0	360
20	42	286	14	0	342
21	26	133	9	0	168
22	31	146	6	0	183
23	23	67	4	0	94
24	60	303	1	0	364
25	152	790	118	0	1060
26	119	695	87	0	901
27	165	605	108	0	878
28	86	629	10	0	725
29	67	236	12	1	316
30	28	213	6	16	263
31	87	214	19	0	320
TOTALS	2288	13101	1855	23	17267

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APPENDIX C

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APPENDIX #3

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UNIT DAILY BATTLE CASUALTY LIST OF VII CORPS FOR JULY

Date	4th Inf	9th Inf	83d Inf	30th Inf	1st Inf	3d Armd	2d Armd	Corps troops	Totals
1	2	167						1	170
2	1	0	11					2	14
3	0	0	15					3	18
4	2	0	1391					21	1415
5	9	0	857					6	872
6	22	0	745					10	757
7	546	0	285					31	862
8	260	0	257					20	537
9	195	0	122					28	345
10	218	150	610					48	1026
11	319	274	279					56	928
12	226	224	207					53	717
13	201	228	234					37	700
14	163	136	133					34	466
15	103	279	290					21	693
16	82	366		147	0	7		32	634
17	150	356		273	0	4		34	816
18	13	200		50	0	15	1	34	313
19	1	218		116	0	4	1	20	360
20	3	230		90	10	0	0	9	342
21	3	104		53	2	0	0	6	168
22	19	107		26	0	0	0	33	183
23	0	49		23	5	13	1	3	94
24	104	164		80	0	2	3	11	364
25	41	352		614	0	1	0	43	1060
26	115	255		426	15	52	52	193	901
27	114	129		409	53	63	55	55	878
28	64	117		--	155	30	215	157	725
29	54	15			25	0	125	97	316
30	48	19			20	25	113	51	263
31	24	3			193	54	116	30	320

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APPENDIX #3

VII CORPS PRISONER OF WAR COUNT FOR 4-31 JULY, 1944

Date	No. Taken
4th	4
5th	10
6th	9
7th	6
8th	50
9th	37
10th	120
11th	247
12th	443
13th	149
14th	144
15th	25
16th	94
17th	101
18th	69
19th	19
20th	15
21st	8
22nd	2
23rd	4
24th	13
25th	200
26th	945
27th	1443
28th	1476
29th	683
30th	3044
31st	678
Totals	9,927 (10-31 July Incl)
*Previously Taken	41,540 (6 June - 9 July Incl)
Grand Total	51,367 (6 June - 31 July Incl)

* As of 9 July as recorded by G-1 (All figures are G-1 estimates)

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
APO 307, U.S. Army

SECRET
Auth: CG VII C
Init: mm
Date: 29 Sept 44

Copy - 2 of 6 Copies

9 September 1944

SUBJECT: History of the VII Corps for the period of 1-31 August, 1944, Incl (Report after action against the enemy.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Through Commanding General, First United States Army.)

1. In compliance with letter 319.1/401 Headquarters, First United States Army, 13 July, 1944, subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports, the following report is submitted for the period 1-31 August, 1944, Incl:

a.) ORIGINAL UNIT

No change

b.) CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

(1) Assigned and Attached Corps Troops as of 1 August, 1944:

1 TD Gp
4 Cav Gp (Mecz)
4 Cav Ron Sq (Mecz)
4 CIC Det PV
5 MRU (M)
VII Corps
VII Corps MP Pl
VII Corps Arty
10 CIC Det
13 FA Obsn Bn
13 CIC Det PV
14 Bomb Disp Sq
18 FA Gp Mtz
24 Cav Ron Sq
24 CIC Det PV
50 Signal Bn
50 Med Bn
60 AGF Band
70 TK Bn
87 Cml Bn Mtz
109 AAA Gp
129 AAA Gun Bn (M)
142 FA Gp Mtz
153 FA Bn (8" Gun)
172 FA Bn (4.5 Gun)
179 FA Gp Mtz

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183 FA Bn (105 How)
188 FA Gp Metz
195 FA Bn (8" How)
195 FA Bn (105 How)
237 Engr C Bn
256 Engr C Bn
266 FA Bn (240 How)
294 Engr C Bn
297 Engr C Bn
307 APU
376 AAA AW Bn (M)
377 AAA AW Bn (M)
385 QM Trk Co
413 AAA Gun Bn (M)
438 AAA AW Bn (M)
456 AAA AW Bn (M)
486 AAA AW Bn (SP)
491 Collect Co
492 Collect Co
506 QM Co (1 Pl)
507 Engr Co LP
602 QM Grv R Co
612 Engr Co LE
634 TD Bn (SP)
649 Clearing Co
663 Engr Top Co C
690 FA Bn (105 How)
692 AM Bn
703 TD Bn (SP)
746 Tk Bn
801 TD Bn (T)
899 TD Bn (SP)
951 FA Bn (155 How)
957 FA Bn (155 How)
980 FA Bn (155 Gun)
981 FA Bn (155 Gun)
988 Engr Co TB
991 Engr Co TB
1106 Engr C Gp
1120 Engr C Gp
2892 Engr TI TM C
3251 Sig Serv Co
3279 QM Serv Co
3891 QM Trk Co

3 Armd Div
HHT Bn, 3 Armd Div
Sup Bn, 3 Armd Div
3 Armd Div Train
23 Armd Engr Bn
32 Armd Regt
33 Armd Regt

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[illegible] Armd Inf Regt
[illegible] Armd Med Bn
[illegible] Armd FA Bn
[illegible] Armd FA Bn
[illegible] Armd Rcn Bn
143 Armd Sig Co
[illegible] Armd FA Bn

4 Inf Div
4 Engr C Bn
4 Med Bn
4 Signal Co
4 QM Co
4 Rcn Tr Mecz
4 Div MP (Pl)
4 Div Arty
8 Inf Regt
12 Inf Regt
20 FA Bn (155 How)
22 Inf Regt
29 FA Bn (105 How)
42 FA Bn (105 How)
44 FA Bn (105 How)
70th Ord LM Co

9 Inf Div
9 Med Bn
9 Signal Co
9 QM Co
9 Rcn Tr Mecz
9 Inf Div MP (Pl)
9 Inf Div Band
9 Div Arty
[illegible] Engr C Bn
[illegible] Inf Regt
[illegible] Inf Regt
[illegible] Inf Regt
[illegible] FA Bn (105 How)
[illegible] FA Bn (105 How)
[illegible] Ord LM Co

[illegible] Cav Rcn [illegible] is relieved from attachment to [illegible] Div and is attached to [illegible] effective [illegible].

[illegible] Memo 6[illegible], [illegible] VII Corps, [illegible] August [illegible].

[illegible] is relieved from attachment to VII Corps and reverts to Army control on order [illegible] First Army effective [illegible].
[illegible] Bn (155 [illegible]) relieved from attachment to VII Corps and reverts to Army control on order First Army.

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AUTH: Opns Memo 63, Hq VII Corps, 11 August 1944.

2d Armd Div (702d TD Bn (SP) and 195th AAA AW Bn (SP) att[illegible]sses to control XIX Corps effective 130900B.
30th Inf Div (823d TD Bn (T), 531st AAA AW Bn (M) and 743rd [illegible] attached) passes to control XIX Corps effevtive 130900B.
35th Inf Div (654th TD Bn (T), 448th AAA AW Bn (M) and 737th Tk [illegible] attached) passes to control Third Army effective 130900B.

AUTH: Opns Memo 65, Hq VII Corps, 13 August 1944.

99th Inf Bn (Sep) is attached to XIX Corps effective 132400B.

AUTH: Opns Memo 66, Hq VII Corps, 14 August 1944.

The following units are relieved from attachment VII Corps [illegible] 171200B on order First Army.
116th AAA Gun Bn.
84th Cml Smoke Gen Co.

AUTH: Opns Memo 69, Hq VII Corps, 17 August 1944.

On order First Army
196th FA Bn is relieved from attachment VII Corps [illegible]ed to V Corps effective 180600B.
Btry A, 17th FA Obsn Bn is relieved from attachm[illegible] I Corps and reverts to control V Corps effective 171200B.

AUTH: Opns Memo 70, Hq VII Corps, 18 Au[illegible]

Provisional Ranger Group (Provisional Rang[illegible]adquarters, 2d Ranger Battalion, and 5th Ranger Battalion) is rel[illegible]r[illegible]tachment VII Corps and reverts to control First Army effective 17[illegible]

AUT: Opns Memo 70, Hq VII Corps, [illegible]gust [illegible]4.

The following units are relieved from a[illegible]chment [illegible] Corps and attached to V Corps effective 18 August 1944:
Hq & Hq Co 1121 Engr C Gp
1146th Engr C Bn
Plat, 610th Engr L Equip Co

AUTH: Opns Memo 73, Hq VII Corps, [illegible]3 August [illegible]944.

(2) Attachments:

The following units revert to control of VII Corps effective 021200B on order of FUSA:
(1) CT 22 (4th Inf Div)
(2) 24th Cav Recn Sq
The following units are attached to 9th Inf Div effective 020000B:
(1) 990th FA Bn (105 H)
(2) 987th FA Bn (155 G)
24th Cav Recn Sq is attached to 1st Inf Div effective 021600B
2d Bn, 60th Inf, attached to 4th Inf Div 011330B August reverts to 9th Inf Div effective 011200B August.

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S E C R E T

Btries A & B, 413th AAA Gun Bn, atchd to 3d Armd Div reverts to Corps control effective 0110800B and 0218008, respectively.

AUT: Opns Memo 55, HQ VII Corps, 3 August 1944.

39th RCT, reinforced (9th Inf Div) is attached to 1st Inf Div [illegible]. Combat Command Boudinot (less one task force team) [illegible] attachment to 4th Inf Div and attached to 1st Inf Div.

Remainder of Combat Command Boudinot reverts to control 3d Armd Div [illegible].

AUTH: Opns Memo 57, HQ VII Corps, [illegible].

Combat Command Boudinot will pass from control of 1st Inf Div to [illegible] on order CG, VII Corps.

AUTH: Opns Memo [illegible], HQ VII Corps, [illegible].

The following units attached to the [illegible] Corps are [illegible] 109th [illegible]

a. 84th Gen Generator [illegible]

b. 115th AAA Gun Bn (90mm)

Combat Command Boudinot reverts to control of 3d Armd Div.

The following attachments and detachments are made effective [illegible] and hour stated:

UNIT

		ATTACHED TO	DETACHED FROM	EFFECTIVE
a.	172d FA [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
b.	987th FA [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
c.	183d FA [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
d.	951st FA Bn	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
e.	Btry A, 1[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
f.	Btry A, 98[illegible]	1st Div	13 [illegible]	[illegible]
g.	Btry B, 13[illegible]	1st Div	[illegible]	[illegible]
h.	Btry A, 981st [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
i.	HQ & HQ Btry, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
j.	87th Armd [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
k.	Co C, 634th [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

AUTH: Opns Memo 59, HQ VII Corps, [illegible].

On order [illegible], 2d Armd Div (less Combat Command [illegible]) Corps effective [illegible].

629th TD Bn ([illegible]) is attached to [illegible] Corps from [illegible] effective 071[illegible].

39th RCT is attached to 4th Inf Div effective [illegible].

1[illegible]th RCT is attached to [illegible] Inf Div effective [illegible].

One on 1[illegible] [illegible] Div effective [illegible].

629th TD Bn is attached [illegible] Div effective [illegible].

The company combat team [illegible] 3d Armd [illegible] tive 07[illegible].

Combat Command Boudinot attached to [illegible].

AUTH: Opns Memo [illegible], [illegible] Corps, [illegible].

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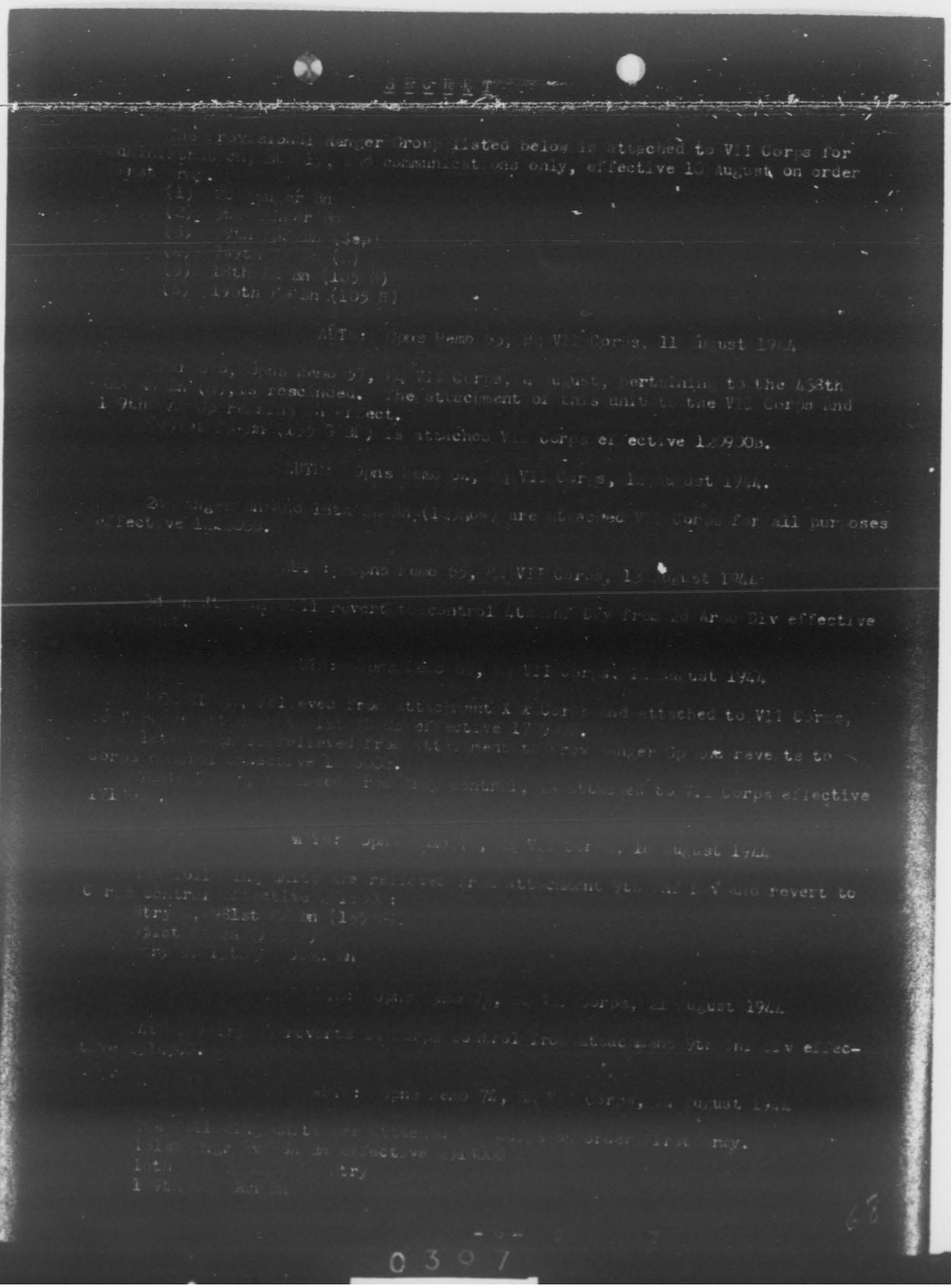

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413th AAA Gun Bn
634th AAA AW Bn, all effective 270600B.

AUTH: Opns Memo 78, Hq VII Corps, 29 August 1944

(3) Losses:

Detachments:

2d Armd Div passes to control XIX Corps effective 021200B on order FUSA
456th AAA AW Bn is relieved from VII Corps and passes to control of Third Army effective 312340B July.

AUTH: Opns Memo 55, Hq VII Corps, 3 August 1944.

The following units pass to control of XIX Corps effective 021200B, on order FUSA:
(1) 702 TD Bn (SP)
(2) 195th AAA AW Bn (SP)
(3) 62 FA Bn (105 SP)
(4) 65 FA Bn (105 SP)
The following units are relieved from attachment to VII Corps on order FUSA and further attached as shown:
(1) 413 AAA Gun Bn attached 49 AAA Brig effective 031200B.
(2) Co A, 518 MP Bn reverts to 518 MP Bn effective 031800B.

195th FA Bn (AW B) reverts from control VII Corps to First Army effective 241200B.

AUTH: Opns Memo 75, Hq VII Corps, 24 August 1944.

987th FA Bn (155 G) (SP) is relieved from attachment to VII Corps and attached to XV Corps, effective 251800B, on orders First Army.

AUTH: Opns Memo 76, Hq VII Corps, 26 August 1944.

The following units are relieved from attachment VII Corps and are attached to 49th AAA Brigade effective 300600B.
16th AAA Gp
413th AAA Gun Bn
109th AAA Gun Bn
634th AAA AW Bn

AUTH: Opns Memo 79, Hq VII Corps, 31 August 1944

c.) STRENGTH:

1. Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army as of 1 August 1944: 92 officers; 14 warrant officers; 322 enlisted men.
Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army as of 31 August 1944: 93 officers; 14 warrant officers; 322 enlisted men.
Net gain for period: 1 officer.
2. VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 1 August 1944: 69,840*
VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 31 August 1944: 70,127*
Net gain for the period: 187.

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AUTH: Morning Reports of 5 Machine Records Unit, VII Corps, U. S. Army for the above dates of August 1944.

NOTE: *Does not include units attached for operations only.

d.) STATIONS:

CPs of Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army

[illegible] August: left St. Martin de Cennily.
[illegible] August: arrived St. Paur des Bois.
11 August: left St. Paur des Bois.
11 August: arrived Fougerolles du Plessis.
13 August: left Fougerolles du Plessis.
13 August: arrived Chateau de la Motte.
[illegible] August: left Chateau de la Motte.
[illegible] August: arrived la Chainy.
[illegible] August: left la Chainy.
27 August: arrived Ranville les Roches.
[illegible] August: left Ranville les Roches.
29 August: arrived Coubert.
31 August: left Coubert.
31 August: arrived la Rue.

AUTH: Morning Reports of Hq Co, VII Corps, U. S. Army.

e.) [illegible]:

1. The continuation of the drive south Cotentin Peninsula to Mayenne, thence east and north, thence across the Seine River and northward toward Belgium.
2. To destroy the enemy on its front in conjunction with other troops of the First U.S. Army.
3. Period: 1 August to 31 August 1944 (not completed).

f.) DETAILS:

See narrative report, Appendix #1

g.) [illegible] COMMANDERS:

VII Corps commanders: Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins.
1st Inf Div: Maj Gen Clarence R. Huebner.
2nd Armd Div: Maj Gen Edward H. Brooks.
3rd Armd Div: Maj Gen Leroy H. Watson relieved from assignment with 3rd Armd Div by [illegible] August, First U. S. Army, [illegible] August, 1944.
Brig Gen Maurice Rose relieved 2nd Armd Div per paragraph 2, [illegible], Hq First U.S. Army, 6 August, 1944, and assigned 3rd Armd Div.

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4th Inf Div: Maj Gen Raymond O. Barton.
9th Inf Div: Maj Gen Manton S. Eddy reld asmt 9th Inf Div, asgd XII Corps per paragraph 1, SO 225, Hq. First U. S. Army, 18 August, 1944.
Maj Gen Louis A. Craig, asgd 9th Inf Div per paragraph 2, SO 225, Hq. First U. S. Army, 18 August, 1944.
30th Inf Div: Maj Gen Leland H. Hobbs.
35th Inf Div: Maj Gen Paul W. Baade.

AUTH: Field Orders 7-8-9, VII Corps, U.S. Army.

h.) LOSSES IN ACTION:

1. Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army:

Killed in action:

None

Wounded in action:

1. Charles 1. Balcer, 1st Lt., Inf O-1290530, 1 August, 1944.

2. VII Corps, U.S. Army:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	Total
officers	78	282	40	400
warrant officers	1	3	0	4
enlisted men	867	4068	519	5454
grand total	946	4353	559	5858

AUTH: 5 Machine Record Unit, Hq VII Corps as of 31 August, 1944. (Note: casualty figures do not include troops attached for operations only.)

i.) FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:

1. Award of Bronze Star Medal:

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and circular No. 66, Headquarters First U.S. Army, dated 18 May 1944, the Bronze Star Medal was awarded to the following:

LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDWIN S HARTSHORN, JR 018716 Field Artillery, United States Army, War Department, while attached VII Corps Artillery for exceptionally meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding service from 8 May 1944 to 21 July 1944 in connection with military operations against the enemy in England and France. Entered the U.S. Military Academy from Washington, D.C.

AUTH: GO 47, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, 11 August 1944.

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TECHNICAL SERGEANT JOHN D NOLAN 37066[illegible] Corps of Engineers, Hq VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from August 1943 to June 1944 at Jacksonville, Florida and England. Entered the military service from Arkansas.

AUTH: GO 50, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, 22 August 1944.

STAFF-SERGEANT VINCENT H CITTADINO 32015960 Signal Corps, Hq Detachment Advance Signal Communication Zone (then Staff Sergeant Hq VII Corps) United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 December 1943 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered the military service from New York.

AUTH: GO 50, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, 22 August 1944.

WARRANT OFFICER (JG) WILLIAM B MADDOCK (then master sergeant) W2131284, Army of the United States, Hq VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 1 June 1944 in England. Entered the military service from Washington.

AUTH: GO 50, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, 22 August 1944.

51 Purple heart awards were made by VII Corps Surgeon for the month.

AUTH: Records of Surgeon, Hq VII Corps for August 1944.

3.) PHOTOGRAPHS:

1. See inclosure # [illegible]
2. (Additional photographs covering the period of this report will be submitted as received from Army Pictorial Service.)

For the Commanding General:

RECEIVED 13 OCT 1944

Lawton Butler

LAWTON BUTLER,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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APPENDICIES:

1. Narrative.
2. Staff List.
3. Casualty and PW list as given by VII Corps, G-1 section.

ENCLOSURES:

1. Field Orders.
2. Administrative Orders.
3. G-3 Sitreps (Situation Reports).
4. G-3 Periodic Reports.
5. G-3 Operations Memoranda.
6. G-2 Journals.
7. G-3 Journals.
8. G-2 Reports.
9. Photographs.

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THE HISTORY OF VII CORPS, U.S. ARMY, COVERING OPERATIONS IN FRANCE, FROM 1 - 31 AUGUST, 1944.

I ——— The Continued Exploitation of the Normandy Breakthrough and Advance 175 miles South of Carentan (1-6 Aug.).

II ——— The German Counter-attack to Sever First and Third U.S. Armies in vicinity of Mortain (7-12 Aug.).

III ——— The Trapping of the German Seventh Army and our 250 Mile Advance to the suburbs of Paris (13-26 Aug.).

IV ——— The Attack across the Seine River to the Northeast in the Somme-Aisne-Marne-Meuse Barrier (27-31 Aug.).

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1 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps continued the attack to the Southeast capturing VILLEDIEU LES POLES and BRECEY and advancing to the vicinity of ST POIS. The enemy continued to fight a delaying action, leaving behind groups of men varying in size from squad to company strength with orders to delay our advance at all costs. These groups were sometimes supported by one or more self-propelled guns. The stiffest opposition was offered by elements of the "Der Fuehrer" and 957th Regiments.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3d Armored Division attached): Continued the attack to the south against light resistance. Armored elements crossed the LA SEE RIVER, captured BRECEY and ST GEORGE (3821), and advanced to within a mile of ST POIS (4825). Infantry elements following the armor consolidated the gains.

4th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3d Armored Division attached): Armored elements continued attack at 0600, crossing the SIENNE RIVER, but were held up due to enemy antitank and artillery fire. Infantry elements captured VILLEDIEU LES POELES and advanced to the vicinity of ST POIS.

9th Infantry Division: Moved into attack assembly area on Corps left flank.

3d Armored Division: Combat elements attached to 1st and 4th Infantry Divisions.

Enemy aircraft, which had become increasingly bolder during the hours of darkness, were again over the Corps area in small flights, dropping bombs on roads and CP's. Some damage was reported by divisional units.

1st Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Corps the 1st Infantry Division, Combat Command Hickey, 3d Armored Division attached, continued the advance against light resistance and captured assigned objectives. Combat Command Hickey spearheaded the attack followed by CT 18 on the right, CT 26 on the left, and CT 16 in division reserve.

Combat Command Hickey attacked in three columns, Task Forces "X", "Y", and "Z". Task Force "Z" and 2d Bn, 26th Inf advanced to LA FAVERIE and, after overcoming a pocket of enemy resistance, captured ST GEORGE (3821). Task Force "X" with elements of the 26th Infantry secured a crossing over the LA SEE River south of BRECEY, captured BRECEY, and continued on to sieze the hilly region south of the forest which borders LEMESNIL ADELEE on the west and south. Task Force "Y" and elements of the 18th Infantry, pushing eastward, advanced to within a mile of ST ROIS (4825).

RCT 18 followed Task Force "Z" and, after encountering light resistance, reached LA TRINITE (3727). 2d Bn, 18th Infantry remained in the vicinity of BRECEY.

CT 26 attacked, following armored elements, and met scattered resistance. The column was cut by enemy tanks and infantry at CR 405286, and a fire fight

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ensued. After tanks and tank destroyers were brought up, the road was cleared and the column continued. Company "A" was committed at the railroad and north of the road just west of VILLEDIEU LES POELES, but the remainder of the 1st Bn followed the 3d Bn and moved to VILLEDIEU. The 3d Bn proceeded on to LA DOVENELLIERE.

CT 16 remained in division reserve vicinity of NOTRE DAME DE LIVOYE. 1st Reconnaissance Troop screened the north flank of the division.

4th Infantry Division

With Combat Command Boudinot, 3d Armored Division attached, the 4th Division maintained a steady advance throughout the day against fairly stiff opposition that was sufficient to keep several battalions deployed and fighting. Armored units, followed by infantry units, advanced to the villages of LA PIGIONNIERE and CHEMIN LA PAILLARDIERE in the vicinity of ST POIS and the division was deployed along the general line of the PERCY-VILLEDIEUX LES POELES Highway.

Combat Command Boudinot, deployed in three task forces, renewed its attack at 0600. Task Force 2 passed through the bridgehead held by Task Force 1 across the SIENNE River. Due to difficult terrain and enemy resistance, Task Force 2 was unable to advance and lost two tank dozers to enemy AT guns, while artillery fire prevented the advance of infantry elements. The attack of Task Force 3 was stopped but was renewed with assistance of 2d Bn, 26th Infantry with an attempt to by-pass the resistance. When at 1400 the attack had not succeeded, the Commanding General 4th Division ordered the attack across the river to be discontinued, and the attack to then by-pass VILLEDIEU LES POELES to the southwest to seize a new objective at ST POIS. Task Force 1 moved out at 1700 hours, followed by Task Forces 2 and 3. At 1845 the 2d Battalion of the 12th Regiment, motorized, was attached to the Combat Command to assist in the advance.

From positions to the east of PERCY the 8th Infantry Regiment moved its 1st Battalion to the south and took up defensive positions to prevent enemy infiltration from below the town. The 2d Battalion remained in assembly area one mile west of PERCY until 2240 when it then traveled by motor to join CC Boudinot. The 3d Battalion moved from a mile southwest of PERCY, attacked at 1330 to the south, and by dark had secured positions in the vicinity of the village of LA FAYE. The 2d Battalion was relieved of the position one mile west of PERCY by the 2d Battalion of the 60th Infantry, which was detached from the 9th Infantry Division.

The 12th Infantry Regiment attacked VILLEDIEU LES POELES at 0800 in a column of battalions from positions as follows: 3d Battalion north of LA GANNERIE, 2d Battalion, north of LES CASTILS, and 1st Battalion, southeast of LA BADINERE. At 2200 the 3d Battalion had occupied the town, the 2d Battalion was in position to prevent the enemy from coming in from the northeast and east, and the 1st Battalion remained in position east of HEL DE VILLEDIEU.

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1 August

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9th Infantry Division

After several days in a rest area following their role in the breakthrough the 9th Infantry Division moved to a new assembly area with the 47th and 39th RCT's going into position on the line on the Corps left flank.

Artillery

1st Division: Combat team organization, no report; 4th Division: Fired 6 registrations, 2 counterbattery, 31 close support, and 4 harassing missions, expending 1396 rounds; 9th Division: Fired 4 registrations, and 1 close support with 68 rounds expended, and Corps fired 2 registrations and 8 harrassing missions, expended 174 rounds. No AA report.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 230

2 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps continued the advance to the South reaching the vicinity of ST POIS and MORTAIN. Poor weather prevented use of air cover for the two combat commands of the 3d Armored Division. Enemy resistance consisted of scattered pockets of enemy, varying in strength from three or four men to company size units supported by self propelled guns. The strongest resistance was met on the 9th Division front when late in the day two groups, estimated at company strength, each supported by self propelled guns and utilizing the reverse slope of the hills in the LA COLOMBE area, slowed down the otherwise general advance of the Corps.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3d Armored Division attached): Infantry elements, preceded by armor, advanced to take objectives less than two miles from MORTAIN.

4th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3d Armored Division attached): Mopped up present positions and advanced to positions 2000 yards Northwest of ST POIS.

9th Infantry Division: Advanced to East, meeting stiffening enemy resistance in the hills vicinity of LA COLOMBE.

3d Armored Division: Combat elements attached to 1st and 4th Infantry Divisions.

2d Armored Division: Attached to XIX Corps 021200.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Infantry Division, with Combat Command Hickey, 3d Armored Division attached, continued the attack to the southeast advancing to the AVRANCHES-MORTAIN Road and to positions two miles northwest of MORTAIN. Combat Teams were disposed from right to left in the order CT 16, CT 26, and CT 18. Combat Command Hickey preceded the advance of infantry elements to the east and southeast. Infantry elements engaged in a severe fight in the vicinity of LES MESNIL ADELEE and at the close of the day enemy contained by the advance were being mopped up.

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CT 16 crossed the LA SEE River and advanced to the AVRANCHES-MORTAIN Road. Two columns, Task Forces "Z" and "X" of Combat Command Hickey preceded the advance of the Combat Teams to the southeast. Task Force "Z" reached positions west of LE POINT DU JOUR approximately two miles from MORTAIN. After being held up temporarily in the vicinity of REFFUVEILLE from 1600 to 2000, Task Force "X" advanced to positions at 5715, southeast of ST BARTHELMY.

CT 26 advanced to the southeast toward the high ground around MORTAIN. As the movement was delayed by armored elements at the PONT HOULAND bridge, the 1st Bn crossed the LE SEE River, but the 3d Bn was ordered to remain west of the river. Reinforced by a tank Bn, the 3d Bn then protected the left flank of the division.

At 0520 the 3d Bn, 18th Infantry moved by motor and by 0658 was across the river and on the hill at T-426175. The RJ 439183 was reached at 1130, and at 1227 the Bn contacted the 1st Bn, 357th Infantry (90th Div) at Cr 438136.

4th Infantry Division

The 4th Infantry Division with Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division attached, mopped up small pockets of enemy resistance that had been hindering movement on the VILLEDIEU - ST POIS Road and advanced to positions 2000 yards northwest of ST POIS. Combat Command Boudinot led the attack, followed by the 12th Infantry on the right and the 8th Infantry on the left.

Combat Command Boudinot with 2d Bn, 8th Infantry attached, maintained positions secured the day before and advanced against enemy small arms, mortar, and artillery fire. The 2d Bn, 8th Infantry occupied Hill 329 (4925), and the combat command advanced to the vicinity of LA CHARATERIE, approximately 2000 yards north of ST POIS.

The 12th Infantry moved south on the VILLEDIEU - ST POIS Road past LE BOURIGNY. 2d Bn, 12th Infantry advanced to approximately 2 miles northwest of ST POIS.

The 8th Infantry, less 2d Bn, protected the left flank of the division until passed through by elements of the 9th Division. At 1200 the 1st Bn was attached to Combat Command Boudinot.

The 22d Infantry passed to VII Corps and 4th Division control from XIX Corps and moved by motor to assembly areas north of VILLEDIEU LES POELES. The 1st Bn, 22d Infantry relieved the 1st Bn, 12th Infantry of responsibility for the defense to the north and east of VILLEDIEU.

9th Infantry Division

Committed on the left flank of the Corps, the 9th Infantry Division advanced to the east against stiffening enemy resistance from small arms and artillery fire. The Division attacked with the 47th Infantry on the right, the 60th Infantry on the left, and the 39th Infantry in reserve.

The 47th Infantry, passing through the 8th Infantry (4th Division), attacked at 0900 in a column of battalions. At 1100 the 1st Bn reached the intermediate objective without opposition. At 1345 the 1st and 2d Bns en-

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countered mortar, small arms, and artillery fire in the hills around LA COLOMBE and south of LA COLINIERE. By 2000 the 1st Bn had advanced about 1200 yards to LES NOES, and the 2d Bn had advanced to the CAEN - VILLEDIEU Road near LE PARC against small arms and increased artillery fire, most of which was from self propelled guns and tanks.

With the 2d and 3d Battalions abreast the 60th Infantry attacked at 1000 meeting increasing resistance and advanced to the line (434368 - 438370) in the same general hill mass as the 47th Infantry. Stiff resistance was encountered as the regiment neared the day's objective.

The 39th Infantry remained in division reserve. At 2040 the 1st Bn completed movement to the vicinity of 425385 to protect the division left flank.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired one mission on tanks and infantry, expending 45 rounds; 4th Division: Fired one registration, a close support and an interdiction mission---540 rounds expended; 9th Division: Fired 1 counterbattery, 2 tank concentpations, and 16 close support missions---a total of 1261 rounds; 3d Armored Division: No report, and Corps fired 1 reinforcing and 12 harassing missions, expending 286 rounds.

Prisoners of War captured by Corps: 475.

3 August 1944

The Corps right flank and center units consolidated their gains, while on the left the advance was slowed somewhat by stiff resistance. The enemy continued to use favorable terrain supported by anti-tank and self-propelled artillery in the vicinity of LE MESNIL GILBERT ST. POIS and the northern edge of the FORET DE ST. SEVER to delay our advance. In waging their delaying action, the Germans employed whatever personnel and equipment were available on the spot.

One salvo of Nebelwerfer fire fell on the leading elements of the 9th Division. Otherwise enemy artillery was of light calibre, generally from self-propelled guns or pieces which were displaced after firing a few rounds. Enemy fire fell along the entire front with the heaviest volume coming from the FERET DE SEVER.

Enemy airplanes were over again during the night of 2/3 August, and also strafed and bombed particularly in the vicinity of the 4th Division around BRECEY where anti-personnel bombs were dropped. About 36 craft were reported over the 1st Division flying from southeast to northwest at 2000.

Enemy tanks operating against the front during the day were employed usually singlely or in pairs. The 1st Division encountered 6 MK IV's northwest of MORTAIN, but the enemy withdrew on contact. From the high ground east of MORTAIN, the 1st Division sent patrols 4 to 6 kilometers to the south

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and east without making contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division attached): concentrated troops in vicinity of their objective which was cleared of enemy and occupied MORTAIN and the high ground to the east.

4th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division attached): Reached Division objectives in the vicinity of ST POIS, and consolidated gains and regrouped for a limited objective attack.

9th Infantry Division: continued the attack against stiff opposition, and advanced 4 to 5 kilometers to the line generally along the railroad between VILLEDIEU LES POELES and ST. SEVER CALVADOS.

3rd Armored Division: combat elements attached to 1st and 4th Infantry Divisions.

1st Infantry Division

Combat Command Hickey remained on the objective during the day. One company of medium tanks from the reserve battalion was sent to establish and maintain a road block at CR 528168 until relieved by the 26th Infantry Regiment elements. Other units were employed moping up in back of the Task Forces' advances of the day before.

The 18th Regiment occupied MORTAIN at 1800 and continued to Hill 317 with elements at BARENTON (6705). During the morning the 2d Battalion marched from Hill 242 to LA ROUSSELIERE (519123). Later the Regiment was ordered as quickly as possible to move to the area south of Task Force "Z". By 1007 forward elements of the 1st Battalion were north of LE POINT DU JOUR with no contact with the enemy. Advanced patrols that had continued as far as BUAIS reported no enemy contact, but resistance was encountered in LE POINT DU JOUR and was cleared out by the 3rd Battalion, assisted by units of the 32nd Armored Regiment. The 1st Battalion attacked and captured Hill 317 by 2245, but fighting was going on at this hill at 2400.

At 0110, the 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry was moving south of LA SEE, about a mile below CUVES and at 0215 had reached check point "D" (475172) and continued to the chapel between LA BESLIERE and LE MESNIL ADELEE where they were at 0810. At that time the 2d Battalion was with Task Force "Z" and the 3rd in the vicinity of ST. NICOLAS DES BOIS. The 2d Battalion was released to the Regiment at 0950 and just prior to noon the Regiment was ordered to contact the 4th U. S. Infantry Division.

The 1st Battalion of the 16th Regiment occupied Hill 202 by 0810. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions were then moving up and were at coordinates T-385165-400145 and T-4214, respectively. At 0940 the Regiment was ordered to send a Battalion to 460152 to relieve the 2nd Battalion of the 18th Infantry, and another unit to Hill 284 as soon as the situation cleared and the road permitted the passage of troops. By 1422 the 3rd Battalion was on the eastern slope of Hill 284 and went into position there. The Regiment attacked at 2230 and cleared the enemy and consolidated their positions.

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3 August

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4th Infantry Division

In the 4th Division zone with Combat Command Boudinot of the 3rd Armored still attached, the various units continued to clear out enemy pockets northwest of ST. POIS. The 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 8th Infantry attacked at 0800 in the right half of the Division zone of action, supported by Task Force 1 of the Combat Command and drove on ST. POIS. The remainder of Combat Command Boudinot remained in positions in the vicinity of hills 264 and 290 until 1830 at which time they started moving to a new objective, CHERENCE LE ROUSSEL with Task Forces 2-1-3 in that order.

Meanwhile the 8th Infantry was striking in a column of battalions, with the 3rd leading, to prevent the debouchment of the enemy from the area northeast of the zone of action between 510227 and 473282 (to the north and northwest of ST. POIS). During the afternoon the Task Force was dissolved and Combat Team 8 assigned the mission of blocking roads leading into the area TRAVIGNY (4823) and HALT (4819), and at the end of the period was occupying positions in this sector.

After being relieved by the 1st Battalion of the 22nd Infantry in VILLEDIEU at 0215, the 1st Bn, 12th Infantry then moved to assembly area south of the town (3831).

At 0800 the 12th Infantry resumed the attack to clear the enemy from the zone of action south to the road 423277-473283. The 2nd Battalion of the 8th Infantry was attached to the Regiment late in the afternoon, and the 12th Infantry was assigned the mission of containing ST. POIS and securing the left flank of the Division between the northeast-southwest line from the east of LA CHEVATERIE to the west of ST LAURENT DE GUVES (4722583-501247). At the end of the period they had succeeded in securing these positions.

Originally in the Division reserve, the 22nd Infantry was ordered in the late afternoon to maintain contact with the 12th Infantry to the south with one battalion from the vicinity of LA COUR (4725). The other two battalions blocked roads from the east and the northeast.

9th Infantry Division

Although the enemy was reported to have withdrawn during the night and the 9th Division advanced against light opposition to the road running east-west through BEL ON at 1200. Resistance increased sharply in the afternoon and by dark only an additional 5000 yards was gained against strong opposition. The Divisional general line was along the railroad between VILLEDIEU LES POELES and ST. SEVER.

The 3rd Bn, 47th Infantry attacked at 0500 from an LD in the zone of the 4th Division to which it had moved during the night. The attack was supported by artillery and the fires of the other two battalions of the regiment. No resistance was initially encountered and the first objective was taken at 0910. The 1st and 2nd Battalions then continued the attack to take objectives against no opposition.

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The 60th Infantry continued its attack at 0630 and made good progress until resistance was encountered along the line of the railroad north of the objective and after 1830 little progress was made. Gains for the day ranged from 4 to 5 kilometers and at dark the line LA BIGOTIERE (479321) - LA FOSSE (455307) was held.

Again the 39th Regiment was not committed to action. During the day the unit moved to a new assembly area.

Artillery

1st Inf Division: Fired 5 registrations, 2 counterbattery, 1 destruction (bridge), 16 harrassing, and 18 close support missions. Expended 987 rounds. 5th FA Bn Recn party (1 officer and 2 enlisted men) was captured and held for about 6 hours by German infantry. Our infantry captured the Germans and released the Reconnissance party shortly before dark.

4th Division: fired 3 registrations, 8 counterbattery, 2 tanks, and 31 close support missions, expending 1087 rounds.

3rd Armd Division: No report.

Co C, 634th TD Bn fired 45 rounds HE direct fire destroying enemy machine gun positions, dug in infantry, and two Mark IV tanks. Co B, 899th TD Bn fired 6 rounds HE direct fire destroying 2 machine gun nests.

Anti-aircraft: No report.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 475.

4 August 1944

Corps troops conducted active patrols to the south and east and consolidated positions. In the mopping up 498 of the enemy were taken prisoner. On the left of the Corps zone, stubborn resistance continued and little advance was made.

Strong points were encountered by the 4th Division on 4 August about a mile northwest of ST MICHEL MONT JOIE. Both heavy and light machine guns were used by the enemy in addition to 6-120mm mortars, 3 MK IV tanks and 2-75mm assult guns. Combinations of the 5th and 8th Companies of the 156th Panzer Grenadier Regiment manned this armor in a desperate attempt to block our advance.

The 116th Panzer Division was identified with the 84th Infantry Division Reconnissance Battalion being committed and assigned the mission of holding the line SOURDEVAL-MORTAIN according to prisoners of war, who stated that the rest of the Division had not yet arrived. The enemy continued to cover his withdrawel by utilizing the terrain and pulling out under artillery cover rather than make a fight to the end, although stubborn groups of resistance supplied delaying action, and opposition stiffened late in the afternoon

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and just before dark. About 500 prisoners were taken during the day.

No planned missions were flown by the Air Corps but armed reconnissance was again conducted with good results. The IX Tactical Air Command reported destruction of 9 tanks and self-propelled guns; 84 trucks; 10 carts; 12 staff cars; 4 motor cycles; 6 bus type trucks; 3 locomotives; 85 box cars, plus a number of damaged and probables with the loss of only one friendly craft. For the first four days of August, Air claims included 37 tanks knocked out and 23 damaged; 188 other vehicles destroyed with 35 more damaged, in addition to raids on troops and guns positions, and the loss of only two of our own planes.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division attached): patrolled Division area, consolidated and organized defensive positions. 4th Cavalry Group patrolled to FOUGEROLLES DU PLESSIS (5591), TESSIEUL (6298), BARENTON (6604). Minefields and road blocks were established.

4th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division attached): completed seizure of objective and established defensive positions on the south and east flank of the Division zone of action. Combat Command Boudinot, less task Force 3, moved south to LA ROUSSEL (5317) and prepared to support the attack of the 39th Infantry (9th Division) at 050800.

9th Infantry Division: enemy resistance was stiff and the attack to the southeast gained only 2 to 3 kilometers. The 39th RCT moved south to vicinity of CHERENCE LA ROUSSEL, attached to 1st Division in preperation for attack on GATHEMO at 050800.

3rd Armored Division: combat elements attached to 1st and 4th Infantry Divisions.

1st Infantry Division

In the 1st Division zone Combat Command Hickey was assembled on its objective and remained there throughout the day for rest with no units being engaged. The 1st and 2nd Battalion of the 16th Infantry contiued to guard against enemy infiltration from the north in the vicinity of JUVIGNY LE TERTRE. The 3rd remained in Regimental reserve and in position for all around defense. Patrols were active to the flanks and rear.

Occupation and defense of positions previously wrestled from the enemy engaged the 18th Infantry with the 1st Battalion firing machine guns and dropping mortar fire on the foe east of MORTAIN. Active patrols and contact were maintained with the enemy.

The 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 26th Infantry arrived in new positions and the 2nd Battalion "tied in" defenses with the 1st Battalion and Task Force "X". All units dug in for allaround defense and prepared to block enemy escape from the north or counter attacks from the northeast or northwest. During the consolidation of positions considerable sniping and infil-

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ration was attempted by the enemy. Tanks and self-propelled artillery fired sporadically throughout the combat team area.

Combat Team 39, temporarily attached from the 9th Division, was enroute to an assembly area near JUVIGNY LE TERTRE from which to attack through the 1st Bn, 16th Infantry to complete the isolation of the German forces caught between the 1st, 4th and 9th U. S. Infantry Divisions.

Patrols from the 4th Cavalry reached FOUGEROLLES DU PLESSIS, LE TEILLEUL and at 1845 were at NOTRE DAME DE TOUCHET. Mine fields were placed northeast of LE TEILLUEL and road blocks established in the same area east of the town. The 1st Reconnissance Troop patrolled south of the river and maintained contact with the 16th Infantry.

4th Infantry Division

The 8th Infantry of the 4th Division jumped off at 1020 from the vicinity of LA GAUTIERE with the 1st and 3rd Battalions abreast, the latter on the right, to seize hill 211 at 505205, about a mile south of ST POIS. The advance was slow and small arms fire was met in addition to machine guns and artillery. The attack was supported by four battalions of Division artillery and two air attacks made on the hill, and at the close of the day the leading elements were just west of the objective.

From positions along the road between LA BRUYERE and a point at 497327 the 12th Infantry attacked to clear out pockets of resistance on the left flank of the 4th Division and to seize Hill 232 at 501233 (northwest of ST POIS). The time of the attack was 1045 and after repeated attempts to advance the Division Commander ordered that the units remain in position and protect the left flank. Heavy enemy fires were encountered on the left flank from the woods and high ground in the 9th Division zone of action.

The 22nd Infantry moved from bivouac areas in the vicinity of VILLEDIEU LES POELES to an assembly area south of LA MARCELLIERE and attacked to the southeast to seize ST. POIS. The attack progressed satisfactorily with light opposition until the two battalions were within 500 yards of the objective. There heavy resistance was met from the town and the high ground to the east.

Combat Command "Boudinot" with Task Forces 1 and 2 in position near LE GAUTIERE and 3 at FOULERIE, remained in those positions until 1700 when Teams 1 and 2 moved across the LA SEE River at CUVES, and by a route through the 1st Division zone of action attacked LA ROUSSEL and had seized the bridge at 531176 at 2200, at which time they were attached to the 1st Division.

9th Infantry Division

Long range artillery was encountered on the 9th Division front, believed to have been 170mm guns. The 47th Infantry attacked at 0800 meeting heavy resistance and engaged in fierce fighting to attain the objective in the FORET DE SEVER. The advance was limited to 2 to 3 kilometers. The 2nd Battalion suffered heavy casualties and had a tank knocked out by AT fire.

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The 60th Infantry attacked with the 1st and 2nd Battalions at 0630 to obtain objectives in their zone. Initially enemy resistance was light and good progress made. At noon the main east west highway was crossed as the attack advanced into the woods where resistance increased. Final positions were about 1 kilometer west of LA GABLERIE. The 3rd Battalion which had remained in reserve was moved to position south of LA VISSIERE to protect the right flank.

Engineers reported the roads leading from the FORET DE ST. SEVER had been indiscriminately mined, particularly the areas around road junctions and crossroads.

ARTILLERY

1st Division: fired 27 counterbattery, 4 harassing, 4 interdiction, 1 enemy OP, 4 close support, and 7 missions on enemy vehicles, expending 842 rounds.

4th Division: fired 10 registrations, 61 close support, 9 interdiction, 2 counterbattery, and 1 mission on enemy tanks. Rounds expended were 1806.

9th Division: fired 4 counterbattery, and 43 close support missions, expending 941 rounds.

Corps: fired 3 enemy battery, 2 registration, and 13 harassing missions.

Batteries A and B, 13th Field Artillery Battalion were attached to 1st and 9th Infantry Divisions, respectively.

Antiaircraft: no report.

Prisoners of War captured by Corps: 498.

5 AUGUST 1944

Stubborn resistance continued on the left of the Corps zone and prevented the completion of consolidation on the VII Corps objective.

During 5 August the enemy continued to use pockets of resistance, generally in company strength and supported by self-propelled guns and tanks, to delay our advance. Isolated strong points continued to offer vigorious resistance to cover his withdrawl to the east and southeast. Tanks continued in their supporting role with 2 to 4 usually attached to a company size infantry unit, and used as direct fire units.

A prisoner of war stated that the enemy defense in CHAMP DU BOULT (5427) consisted of a decimated battalion of infantry with 6 heavy machine guns, 4-120mm mortars, 6-20mm AA guns, and 3-75mm asault guns, plus 3-88's and at least one Mark V tank in support. It was this strong point that stopped the 9th Infantry Division (les RCT 39) in their general advance to the line LA RENOULIERE-CHAMP DU BOULT. Enemy artillery of 150mm and 170mm calibre

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continued to fall in this area as well as MORTAIN, but elsewhere was light and sporadic.

Active patrols were maintained by the 1st Division to the south and consolidation of positions effected in the vicinity of MORTAIN. The 39th Infantry attacked at 0800 northeast toward GATHEMO with the 2nd and 3rd Battalions. By 0845 they had advanced 300 yards north of the line of departure, and were receiving artillery and some mortar fire. At 1725 the Regiment was attacked by tanks and German planes. Allied Air and Artillery engaged the tanks. Heavy fighting was encountered. The Combat Team was on the general line LAMARDELL (5319) LE MONT TURIS (5518) at the end of the day.

A large number of the enemy with his armor and vehicles were destroyed during the day by air and artillery. The IX TAC reported 5 tanks destroyed, 1 damaged and 1 probable; 22 armored cars knocked out; 31 trucks demolished with 7 more damaged and 3 probably hit; 60 freight cars wrecked, 37 damaged and 15 probably hit, in addition to destruction of two enemy aircraft and other ground vehicles at a cost of three American craft shot down.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division, and RCT 39, 9th Infantry Division, attached): Attacked to northeast toward GATHEMO (5623), encountered heavy fighting and at close of the period were on the general line LE MONT TURGIS (5518)-LAMARDELL (5319). From that line they were assisted by air and artillery of the 4th Infantry Division in the destruction of a large number of enemy with his armor and vehicles. Other units began the move to the vicinity of MAYENNE (8071).

4th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division attached) Completed the occupation of ST. POIS (4922), seized key terrain features within Division objective, and eliminated isolated pockets of resistance.

9th Infantry Division: Continued the attack to the south, advancing to the line: LA RENOUILLERE (4925)-CHAMP DU BOULT (5426) where a strong enemy defensive position was encountered and a heavy fight developed.

3rd Armored Division: Combat units attached to 1st and 4th Infantry Divisions.

9th Infantry Division

The 47th Infantry attacked at 0800 with the 3rd Battalion moving out from the vicinity of LA GAST and the 1st from the right flank toward LA CORBIERE. The 3rd cleared scattered resistance and moved slowly to its objective. The objective of the 1st Battalion was changed to Hill 280 (5032N3) which they took by late evening. Strong defensive positions were organized for the night about 2000 yards northeast of ST. POIS.

After moving through the FORET DE ST. SEVER against light resistance the 60th Infantry attacked with the 1st and 3rd Battalions. Only occasional artillery and mortar fire was encountered and rapid gains were made. However,

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as the attack progressed it met strong resistance from a well defined line of defense. A coordinated attack with the 1st Battalion assulting CHAMP DU BOULT was launched, but enemy slef-propelled artillery, mortars and small arms halted the drive at the town. The 3rd Battalion, ordered to swing to the left and assist the 1st Battalion, established contact at 2230. The 2nd Battalion in reserve moved to position in rear of the 1st Battalion. Positions were dug in for the night.

Minefields were encountered throughout the 9th Division zone, especially at CRs and RJs.

4th Infantry Division

The 8th Infantry of the 4th Division consolidated positions on Hill 211 with the 1st and 3rd Battalions. Little oposition was met. A counterattack by the enemy at 1000 resulted in the temporary loss of 3 anti-tank guns and 3 half tracks which were regained by the Regiment mounting an attack of its own. Three German tanks were destroyed and two more damaged. The 2nd Battalion of the Regiment attacked from the vicinity of LA MOINIERE at 1530 to capture LE MESNIL-GILBERT and LA HOUSSARDIERE. At eh close of the period all three battalions were in the vicinity of LE MESNIL-GILBERT, the 1st being north of the town, the 2nd south, and the 3rd in the hills above LA CROIX.

Pockets of resistance were cleaned up as the 12th Infantry continued consolidation of positions on the Division left flank. The 1st Battalion seized Hill 329 (495255) at 1245. The 3rd Battalion supported the attack of the 47th Infantry (9th Division) in the latter's seizure of the hill in the vicinity of LA COBIERE (505245). The 3rd Battalion supported with fire the attack of the 3rd Battalion of the 22nd Infantry on Hill 232 (500232).

The 3rd Battalion of the 22nd Infantry attacked at 0900 to seize Hill 232 which after heavy resistance was taken at 1700. From 500 yards north of ST. POIS the 1st Battalion moved out at 0900 to occupy the woods at 500223, by-passing the town from the south. A company from the 2nd Battalion occupied ST. POIS from the west. Throughout the day the 1st and 2nd Battalions met determined resistance from the high ground east of ST. POIS.

During the night two JU 88's were shot down over the 4th Division and in the afternoon FW 190's straffed the positions of the 3rd Armored. Enemy aircraft was becoming more active and adventuresome during daylight hours in addition to his nightly visits over Corps area under the cover of darkness.

1st Infantry Division

The 39th RCT, reinforced, was still attached to the 1st Division for the purpose of attacking from the vicinity of CHERENCE LE ROUSSEL to seize the high ground and road center in the vicinity of GATHEMO and cut off hostile elements between this objective and the remainder of the 9th Division. Combat Command Boudinot, less one task force team, was relieved from the 4th Division and attached to the 1st Division for the purpose of securing a crossing of LA SEE River for the 39th RCT at ROUSSEL. Upon completion of its task it was to revert to the 3rd Armored.

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Artillery

1st Division: nor report.

4th Division: fired 7 registrations, 31 close support, and 22 interdiction missions, expending 2675 rounds.

9th Division: fired 7 counterbattery, 60 close support, and 1 mission on enemy tanks. Rounds expended were 3352.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to operate as combat commands.

Corps: fired 3 registrations, 5 enemy batter, 40 interdiction, 1 enemy assembly area, 1 tank, and 1 enemy OP mission, expending 1808 rounds.

Units under Corps control were 13th FA Obsn Bn (A & B); 142nd FA Gp (980th FA Bn, less A, 155 G, and 981st FA Bn, less A, 155 G), and 188th FA Gp (174th FA Bn, 155 G S/P, and 195th FA Bn, 8" H).

Antiaircrafts: 2 JU 88s shot down over 4th Division area by 377th AAA AW Bn.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 22 rounds HE and 20 AP direct fire; 703rd TD Bn fired 70 rounds HE and 30 AP, Co C, 899th TD Bn fired 17 rounds HE direct fire at enemy strong points in hedgerows and houses.

Prisoners of War captured by Corps: 244.

6 AUGUST 1944

While the left flank of the Corps continued to be strongly opposed by the enemy and little advance was made in that sector, units on the right me t with very little resistance, and continued the advance to the southeast where MAYENNE (8171) was occupied. Extensive patrolling was conducted to the east and south, armored elements reaching DOMFRONT (8003).

Air reconnissance and column cover supplied by IX tactical Air Command resulted in destruction of 9 tanks, 5 armored vehicles, 6 weapons carriers, 5 jeeps, 4 other vehicles with two additional tanks damaged and raids made on 2 AA positions and an ammo dump damaged. Only one American plane was lost during these operations.

During the 24 hour period ending 060601 American Antiaircraft Artillery reported 7 raids with 3 planes shot down.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division attached): Occupied OISSEAU (7777), AMBRIERES LE GRAND (8082), and MAYENNE (8171) with very little resistance to the Division's motorized advance. Extensive patrols were conducted to the northeast. All elements of the 1st Division were relieved in their former positions by the 30th Infantry Division at 061800.

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4th Infantry Division: Elements of the Division continued to be engaged along their left boundary line by enemy infiltrating to the south but not a large scale of fighting developed. The remainder of the Division assembled in Corps reserve. Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division, reverted to 3rd Armored control at 061420.

30th Infantry Division: Moved into and assumed responsibility for 1st Division area on southwest of Corps' sector at 061800. The 3rd Battalion, 120th Infantry, moved to the vicinity of BARENTON (6604) to reinforce Task Force "X" of Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division.

9th Infantry Division: Advanced against stubborn resistance to the line, ST. POIS (4922) GATHEMO (5523) (exclusive). RCT 39 reverted to Division control at 061200, and attacked north of CHERENCE LA ROUSSEL (5317).

1st Infantry Division

In the 1st Division's broad sweep OISSEAU and AMBRIERES LE GRAND were also occupied and advance elements of Task Force "X", 3rd Armored Division, attached to the 1st Infantry, entered DOMFRONT (8003) and LASSAY. MAYENNE (8171), some 5 to 6 miles below the confluence of LA VARENNE and MAYENNE Rivers, and 30 miles southeast of MORTAIN, was occupied and extensive patrols sent out to the south and east. At 1638 contact was made by elements of the 16th, 18th, and 26th RCTs in OISSEAU.

The Division was ordered to move an RCT and a battalion task force to secure bridgeheads at AMBRIERES LE GRAND and MAYENNE during the night of 5/6 August and relieved elements of the 90th Infantry Division in the vicinity of MAYENNE (8171). Combat Team 16, reinforced and motorized, advanced to the south as ordered. The head of the column passed the phase line at 0640 and by 1100 the 1st Battalion had closed at Y-802712 with the CT closing near Y-803719 at 1315. By 1638 contact was made with the 18th Infantry at OISSEAU, and elements patrolled to the north to contact Task Force "X", while the rest of the Regiment occupied MAYENNE (8171).

The 18th Regiment reported MORTAIN had been bombed, particularly on the roads; casualties were light and engineers were repairing the roads. The 2nd Battalion moved south and at 0715 contacted Task Force "X" at LE TEILLEUL (6398). The 18th CT was relieved by the 120th Regiment of the 30th Division at 1350 in the vicinity of AMBRIERS LE GRAND (8082). The 2nd Battalion of the 18th Infantry moved to the high ground west of the river, near LA BRUYER Church at 2010 and the 3rd Battalion went into position south of AMBRIERES LE GRAND (802817) and the relief of Task Force "X" was completed.

Heavy mortar and artillery fire were received by CT 26 while maintaining previous defensive positions during the night. Orders were received for the 26th Infantry by the 117th Infantry of the 30th Division. The Regiment advanced south in conjunction with the attack on AMBRIERES LE GRAND and MAYENNE to seize and hold the crossings of the LA MAYENNE River. The relief was completed in the vicinity of OISSEAU on LA COLMONT River after the 26th Infantry had secured that object, and at the close of the period the CT was enroute to new positions in the vicinity of 7677.

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6 August

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Combat Command Boudinot reverted to control of the 3rd Armored Division at 1200. Combat Command Hickey advanced to the south. At 0900 Task Force "X" was east of LA VARENNE River near MONTANON, and at 1015 made contact with the 18th RCT at LE TEILLEUL. At AMBRIERES, which was reached at 1235, small arms and mortar fire was encountered. CT 18 relieved the Task force at 2010.

The 4th Cavalry Group continued to screen the advance south and block roads along the northeast portion of the Corps' boundary. Reconnissance elements were in contact with the enemy north of BARENTON, and also met enemy forces at LA PERTIUS (705003). The 4th Cavalry Squadron had patrols to the northwest during the morning and at 1015 elements were in MANTILLY and found the bridge below SOUCE (785903) across the LA VARENNE blown. In the afternoon the Squadron was engaged with enemy infiltration at 626072 and at 1910 had contact with the 24th Cavalry Reconnissance Squadron at the Calvary (738987) along the road south from DOMFRONT to PASSAIS.

30th Infantry Division

The 30th Division in again coming under Corps control was assigned the mission of progressively relieving the 1st Division in the area of MORTAIN-CHERENCE LE ROUSSEL and destroying any enemy attempt to withdraw through this area. RCTs started moving by motor during the night of 5-6 August.

From the vicinity of TESSY SUR VIRE the 120th Regiment moved to relieve the 18th Infantry near MORTAIN. At 1000 the 3rd Battalion, less Company K, and supported by a company of medium tanks and a platoon of the Reconnissance Troop started to move to BARENTON. Just as the column moved out, they were strafed by enemy west of JUVIGNY LE TERTRE, with the loss of 4-2½ ton trucks and 5 men killed and 20 wounded. The forward elements of the Battalion reached the outskirts of BARENTON at 2310 where contact was made with Task Force "X". The other two regiments of the Division left the vicinity of TESSY SUR VIRE and effected relief of 1st Division units near MAYENNE and OISSEAU where the 16th and 26th Infantry Regiments had respectively advanced.

9th Infantry Division

Meanwhile on the left of the Corps zone, the enemy continued to relie on pockets of resistance to cover their withdrawl south and southeast. Resistance in front of the 9th Division came chiefly from 1051st and 1052nd Infantry Regiments which had relieved the 116th Panzer Division during the night of 5-6 August in the CHAMP DU BOULT area. After the enemy's defense line south of the L'EUDERIE-VIRE Road was penetrated late in the morning resistance decreased. The enemy, inexperience and tired from many days marching, held their road line defense stubbornly, supported by artillery and self-propelled guns, but once the line was penetrated they withdrew south and southeast. Tanks were also used in a defensive role on the front and the Division claimed two MK IVs and a MK V knocked out.

In the morning the advance was slow. The leading battalion of the 47th Infantry was in the vicinity of ST. MICHIEL DE MONTJOIE (5223) at 1230; forward elements of the 60th Infantry near ST. LOURENT DE CUVES (457225); and

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the 39th, which rejoined the Division late in the morning, attacking northeast against strong opposition, advanced approximately 1200 yards to the line 536200-540182-550181, north of CHERENCE LE ROUSSEL.

In the afternoon the advance continued to the line ST. POIS (4922) - GATHEMO (5623), excluded. The 39th Infantry upon receipt of a new objective, changed direction of attack to east, and the 3rd Battalion reached LA SEE River and northeast along the line 546197-549190. The 1st Bn was strung out south of the stream to LE MONT TURGON, and the 2nd Battalion was along the line 536204-543200, north of MARDELLE.

The 2nd Battalion of the 47th Infantry moved to LA TULIERE at 1300, and then followed the 1st Battalion toward objective "T" (510226) and both made good progress. Patrols from the 1st Bn reached LA GODERIE without opposition. The 3rd Battalion withdrew at 1700 to permit artillery to fire on the objective (511250) and then, renewing its attack made substantial progress.

When the 60th Infantry attacked at 0900, the 2nd Battalion passed through the 1st Battalion, and moved through CHAMO DU BOUT toward the objective, the high ground in the vicinity of PERRIERS EN BEAUFICE (5420). The 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of LES BUTTES attacked southeast. The 2nd Battalion met little resistance and maintained a steady advance to reach a point near LA RENARDIERE where opposition stiffened and the unit halted to reorganize. The 3rd Battalion encountered strong resistance from the start and made slow progress to the vicinity of L'ABIDIER where it halted. At 1600, the 1st Battalion moved between the 2nd and 3rd Battalions to support the attack. Assisted by heavy artillery fire and with the 746th Tank Battalion supporting the infantry assult, the battalions broke through resistance and advanced south to intermediate objectives in the vicinity of 547243.

4th Infantry Division

On the left boundary of the Division elements continued to be engaged by enemy infiltration but no large scale of fighting developed. Combat Command Doudinot reverted to the 3rd Armored Division as the 4th Infantry prepared to go into Corps reserve after clearing all roads and eliminating resistance from ST. POIS to the Division boundary in the vicinity of 516207. Troops not required for outpost line moved into a rest area, having spent 50 of the 60 fighting days since D-day in the front lines.

Artillery

1st Division: fired 6 registrations, 7 close support, and 8 missions on local enemy counter-attacks, expending 780 rounds.

4th Division: fired one preperation in which all battalions took part, and 6 close support missions. Rounds expended were 1800.

9th Division: fired 8 counterbattery, 12 enemy tanks, and 87 close support missions, expending 3635 rounds.

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30th Division: (2nd Battalion only)- fired missions as follows: 1 machine gun, 12 tanks, 4 vehicles, 17 infantry, 3 harassing, 4 enemy battery, 14 interdiction, 1 kitchen with an expenditure of 2401 rounds. Series of enemy counter-attack caused heavy expenditure by Division.

Corps: fired 1 registration, 7 enemy battery, and 20 interdiction missions. Rounds expended were 362.

Antiaircraft: 109th AAA Gp reported 2 planes (Me 109 and FW 109) shot down in Corps area by 474th AAA AW Bn (S/P) and 103rd AAA AW Bn (M), each of which claimed 1 "Cat II". Action occured between 1720 and 1730 hours when 15-20 Me 109's and FW 109's strafed roads and crossroads with machine gun fire and rockets. P-47's of the 366th Fighter Group attacked 18 FW 109's while the AA action was in progress and claimed 1 enemy craft shot down and 6 probably damaged.

Tank Destroyers: 899th TD Bn: Co A fired 79 rounds of AP and 82 rounds of HE destroying 3 MK IV's and 2 MK V's. Co B fired 6 rounds of HE at enemy tanks. Results of this firing are unknown.

Prisoners of War captured by Corps: 250.

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(7 June)

The VII Corps repulsed a determined enemy counterattack. During the early morning hours the enemy struck with the greatest counterattack force he had mustered since D-day in an attempt to drive a wedge between the First and Third Armies in what he believed to have been a major drive to the sea along the axis, Mortain—Brecey—Avranches. The brunt of his blow fell on the 30th Division sector in the vicinity of MORTAIN and the area east of CHERANCE-LE ROUSSEL.

The enemy infiltrated into the area around ST BARTHELMY in addition to MORTAIN and ROUSSEL and although the penetration was contained by Corps troops and the counterattack halted, the Germans succeeded in isolating one battalion of the 30th Division, reentering MORTAIN and BARENTON, and the general effect practically stopped the VII Corps advance. By 1200, the enemy had built up enough infantry and artillery in his penetration to be estimated at 12 battalions (5 infantry, 4 artillery and 2-3 tank battalions) by the 30th Division.

No prearranged mission was flown by the IX Tactical Air Command during the day, but the air continued in support of ground troops "on call" and 28 tanks were reported destroyed, 12 damaged and 2 probably destroyed; 9 motor transports knocked out and 4 damaged; 10 half-tracks destroyed; two enemy planes shot down; a jeep, staff car and motorcycle destroyed, and several 88's silenced.

30th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3d Armored Division attached 0730 and RCT 12, 4th Infantry Division attached 1630) During the early hours the enemy made a determined counter-attack against this Division and furious fighting lasted throughout the day. An enemy penetration at LE MESNIL TOVE was cut off and liquidated and a penetration south of MORTAIN enabled the enemy to reoccupy this town, severing communication and supply with the 2nd Battalion of the 120th Infantry on the high ground to the east of MORTAIN.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division attached) Repelled enemy counter-attack in the vicinity of MAYENNE in early hours, and maintained contact with the enemy by vigorous patrolling during the remainder of the day.

9th Infantry Division: Early in the morning the enemy counter-attack penetrated to the rear of the 39th Infantry and all throughout the day the Regiment was heavily engaged by enemy forces attempting further penetration. The lines held in the face of the attack which was supported by heavy artillery fire and at 2200 the 39th Infantry was attached to the 4th Division. The 47th and 60th Infantry Regiments attacked south to relieve pressure of the 39th.

4th Infantry Division: At the beginning of the period the Division was in Corps reserve, alerted to take defensive positions to prevent enemy infiltration to the north. The 12th RCT was attached to the 30th Infantry Division and at close of period was assembling in the vicinity of coordinates 5107, preparing to be committed on that Division's east flank. 39th RCT, 9th Division, was attached at 2200.

35th Infantry Division: Was attached To VII Corps from XX Corps and assigned the MORTAIN-LE TEILLEUL sector. At the close of the period the 134th and 137th RCTs were enroute, having reached the road BUAIS (5596)-NOTRE DAME (5703)-RJ 517091 by dark.

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3rd Armored Division: Combat elements attached to 1st and 30th Infantry Divisions.

2nd Armored Division (less Combat Command "A"): Moved to attack assembly area in the vicinity of BARENTON (6604) and relieved elements of 30th Infantry and 3rd Armored Divisions.

30th Infantry Division

In the 30th Division zone the 117th and 120th Regiments were attacked at 0130 from the east. Some penetration into MORTAIN was reported, but the 2nd Battalion, 120th Infantry, still held the high ground east of the town. Other slight enemy infiltrations to the north were also reported with the enemy employing tanks in the vicinity of LE MESNIL TOVE. The 39th Infantry of the 9th Division and the 30th's own 117th Infantry both reacted the attack, and the 30th Division reported to Corps headquarters at that time they were not yet greatly concerned. The result of the day's operations was the repulse of the enemy's attack, although he achieved penetrations in several places. However the Division's own attack partially restored the original positions, but loss of equipment and personnel was high among combat elements and the 2nd Battalion, 120th Infantry was completely cut off from supply and out of communication. Division casualties were over 600 for the day.

The 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 117th Infantry occupied the high ground in the vicinity of ST. BARTHELMY throughout the period and successfully defended it from counterattacks. The 1st Battalion of the 117th Infantry was pushed back 700 yards toward ST. BARTHELMY, facing north and east. The 2nd Battalion attached to 120th Infantry was east from JUVIGNEY to LA VALLE and north to the edge of BELLE FONTAINE on the road to the north flank of the 3rd Battalion.

While occupying the high ground around MORTAIN and organizing its defense, the 120th Infantry with attached elements, was attacked, and the enemy succeeded in penetrating the right sector and infiltrated troops around the right flank into MORTAIN. Company C was committed to stop the infiltretion into the town. The 2nd Battalion of the 117th was then attached. Road blocks south of MORTAIN were pushed in leaving the right flank open. Infantry rifle platoons were sent to ROMAGNY to reconnoiter the extent of the enemy breakthrough and were ambushed with only two men and two vehicles escaping.

At 0900 Company F, 117th Infantry was ordered to attack east to capture Romagny, and continue the attack into MORTAIN. F Company cleared ROMAGNY of enemy resistance, but was unable to enter MORTAIN. The 2nd Battalion, 117th Infantry less Companies F and G, was dispatched to clear MORTAIN of enemy, but was likewise unable to accomplish its mission.

The 3rd Battalion of the 120th Infantry less K Company, reinforced by elements of the 743rd Tank Battalion and a platoon of the 30th Reconnaissance Troop, attacked north to take the town of BARENTON and to partially occupy the town. Forward elements of Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division, reached the town at 1900 and the reinforced Battalion was attached to the Combat Command at that time.

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7 August

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The 12th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Division was attached to the 30th Division at 1430 and one battalion of the CT was immediately dispatched to aid in repelling the counter-attack, moving from BRECEY to MONTIGNY.

Establishment of a bridgehead mission in the vicinity of DOMFRONT had been assigned to the 119th Infantry, and they were in an assembly area. Elements of the 1st Battalion were attached to the 120th Infantry. The 3rd Battalion, bolstered by tanks, moved north of JUVIGNY to occupy LE MESNIL TOVE. Company I, plus a tank platoon, was given the mission of attacking west of LA PILOISIERE and combining forces with B Company at LE MESNIL LE ADELEE. The 3rd Battalion met resistance on the outskirts of LE MESNIL TOVE. At 1430 Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored, passed through B Company and LE MESNIL ADELEE. This enabled the Combat Command to occupy the town but drove a large number of Germans toward LE MESNIL TOVE which forced I Company to leave the road and caused considerable pressure on the 3rd Battalion. This was successfully beaten off and contact established with Combat Command Boudinot at TOVE.

1st Infantry Division

Additional enemy counter thrusts were repelled by the 1st Division at an early hour and contact maintained with the enemy throughout the day by patrols. One reinforced battalion was dispatched to hold GORRON against any enemy attack.

The 16th RCT was attacked at 0300 by elements of the 9th Pz Division and the 10th Pz Gr Regiment, some 500 yards north of MAYENNE, using Nebelwefer and artillery. Task Force Weaver (90th Division) moved toward AROW (853703) but were forced back toward MAYENNE. Heavy artillery and mortar fire were brought to bear on the enemy in the MAYENNE area and in the face of this his attack bogged down. Several AT guns and three M-10s were destroyed by the Germans. Later extensive patrols were sent out to the east and southeast to ascertain enemy intentions, and the 1st Battalion sent to AROW at 1800. The Regiment was in position to repel any enemy attack within its sector and physical contact was maintained by patrols with the 26th Infantry on the left flank and Task Force Weaver.

Positions near AMBRIERES LE GRAND were consolidated by the 18th Infantry, patrols kept active to the east, and contact maintained with the 26th Infantry on the right. At 0925 the RCT less a battle group was in the vicinity of BARENTON. They moved to AMBRIERES with Task Force "X", 3rd Armed Division and established a bridgehead with the construction of a treadway bridge, which they continued to guard. Extensive patrols were thrown across the river which reconnoitered east of ST. LOUP-DU-GAST.

Soon after 0930 the 3rd Bn, 26th Infantry had crossed the MAYENNE River at ST. FRAIMBAULT DE PERIERES without opposition and secured the crossing against scattered resistance. The 2nd Battalion was alerted for any possible counter-attack and moved to the rear near LE TEILLEUL and then moved, reinforced, to GORRON at 2110 to hold that river town at all costs. Another river crossing was secured at MONTGIOUX (738617) by a battle group composed of Company K, one platoon of tank destroyers, an artillery battery, a tank Company and the Regimental I and R platoon.

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The 1st Battalion moved into position to support the 3rd Battalion to counter-attack to the north, northeast or south. A number of FW-190's and ME-109's came over the area at about 1500 feet on a strafing mission, making three sorties between 1610 and 2000 hours but were driven off by the Bofors and machine gun fire of the 103rd AA Battalion with four enemy craft destroyed and three probably shot down.

4th Infantry Division

In the 4th Division sector a counter-attack was beaten back in the vicinity of ST. POIX and no major penetration achieved by the enmy. Elements of the 22nd Infantry attacked Hill 230 and an OPL was established along the line 495240-Hill 232-CHATEAU LINGE-510229 to prevent enemy infiltration from the east.

The 8th Regiment had closed in bivouac to the southand southeast of Hill 211 on the night of 6-7 August. At 0820 the 2nd Battalion was sent to LE ROUSSEL and movement to defensive positions was completed by 1215. Co E proceeded along the route LE ROUSSEL-LE MESNIL TOVE-LE MESNIL ADELEE-LE MESNIL GILBERT to mop up resistance in the area.

The 1st Battalion remained in bivouac area 1200 yards west of Hill 211. The 3rd, Battalion, except Company K which remained on Hill 211, established a bridgehead at SURSEC to allow passage of the 2nd Armored Division over the SEE River. Company K was ordered to cross the river at LE ROUSSEL and proceed west to SURSEC to investigate the enemy vehicle column which had been shelled by Division artillery earlier in the day, but was forced to withdraw due to heavy resistance just north of LE ROUSSEL.

At 062400 the 22nd Infantry Regiment was outposting a line extending from LINGHARD CHATEAU (527196) to Hill 232. Company C attacked from position near the CHATEAU to capture Hill 230 where they contacted the 1st Battalion of the 47th Infantry attacking from the north. Company K which occupied a position on the Hill (232) was withdrawn at 1600.

Division artillery in firing in support of Company C, 22nd Infantry, fired a concentration onan enemy column consisting of approximately 30 vehicles, which was spotted by the Air along the road at 502165. Directed by aerial observation, firing continued for an hour and a half, ending at 1700 when the Air OP reported all but three tanks disabled and that those were proceeding slowly to the west.

The 4th Reconnissance Squadron patrolled the roads ST. POIX to LE ROUSSEL until 1400 at which time they were assembled in a position of readiness at LA FOULLIERE (500217) in Division reserve. Task Force "W" (Welborn) consisting of the 70th Tank Battalion, less two companies; 4th Engineer Combat Battalion, less 1 platoon; 4th Reconnissance Troop, and 801st Tank Destroyer Battalion, minus one company, and commanded by Lt Col J. Welborn, CO of the 70th Tank Battalion, established an outpost line which extended from POWTIERE (464193) to BRECHY to LE BESNERIE (405275).

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During the early morning hours the attack penetrated to the rear of the 39th Infantry and all during the day this Regiment was heavily engaged by enemy forces attempting further penetration. The lines held in the face of the attack, supported by heavy artillery fire and at 2200 the 39th Infantry was attached to the 4th Division. The 47th and 60th Infantry Regiments attacked south early in the day to relieve pressure on the 39th Infantry and made slow progress.

Counter attacking with infantry and armor enabled the enemy to make a successful penetration in the rear of the 39th Infantry and other elements from the east toward LE MESNIL TOVE and by 0700 he was heavily engaged with the 82nd Armored Reconnissance Battalion at CHERENCE LA GALE where he was eventually neutralized. The attack of the 39th Infantry scheduled for 0800 was withheld because of the situation to its rear. At 1200 the 2nd Battalion of the 8th Infantry moved up to protect the 39th's rear. Meanwhile the enemy was exerting pressure against the entire front of all three 39th Infantry Battalions and trying to penetrate between the 1st and 3rd Battalions. Pressure remained throughout the day and lines remained unchanged in face of heavy artillery fire.

In view of the situation confronting the 39th Infantry, the 47th Infantry was ordered to attack as soon as possible, and jumped off at 0900. Progressing against moderate resistance the battalions advanced and at 1200 the road running east of ST. MICHEL DE MONTJOIE was reached. The attack continued and the 2nd Battalion advanced to Hill 250 (525223), the 1st Battalion to Hill 230 (523230), and the 3rd Battalion to Hill 330 (525340). These objectives were reached by 1500. At 1545 the Regiment was given new objectives to the south and attacked with the 1st and 2nd Battalions moving to these positions (528223) and (540215).

The 60th Infantry attacked at 0800 and met heavy resistance initially, but after the east-west road to GATHEMO (5623) was crossed, the enemy became somewhat disorganized and rapid progress was made. The 3rd Battalion liberated L'AUBIERE, as the 2nd and 3rd Battalions pushed abreast. At 1530 both assult battalions had penetrated the Regimental objective. A new objective was assigned at 1630 and the Regiment was ordered to hold a line, defending from the east. They engaged in a heavy fire fight to reach the line 550236-550220. By 2400 all battalions were in positions.

2nd Armored Division

Combat Command "B" moved out on its assigned axis at 0530. Combat Command "A" was detached from the Division as XIX Corps Reserve. Combat Command "B" progressed steadily until approximately 1100, when the mission was changed and the Division, less Combat Command "A", was attached to the VII Corps. Combat Command "B" moved into assembly area in the vicinity of BARENTON, via ST. HILAIRE (4703) -BUAIS (5596) preparatory to attacking on the morning of 8 August. The Division Reserve was ordered up and at the end of the period was closing in an assembly area in the vicinity of BARENTON. Elements of 30th Infantry and 3rd Armored Divisions were relieved in this sector. Units of the 2nd Armored continued toward GER.

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Artillery

1st Division: fired 3 registrations, 6 vehicle and tanks, 8 personnel, 1 harassing, 1 OP, 1 suspected gas dump, and 2 S/P gun locations for a total of 360 rounds expended. In addition 4 battalions were fired on two areas in which PWs had reported 20 enemy guns. Rounds expended on these missions were 444, making a total for the period of 804.

4th Division: fired 3 registrations and 6 close support missions, expending 757 rounds. Inspection of damage done by a previous tank and vehicle mission revealed 5 tanks and 12 trucks destroyed.

9th Division: fired 10 counterbattery, 15 tank, and 13 close support missions, an expenditure of 1610 rounds.

30th Division: fired 5 counterbattery, 4 registrations, 88 mortar, 40 tanks, 39 infantry, 37 harassing, 60 interdiction, and 10 preperation missions, expending 3761 rounds.

Armored Divisions were operating in combat commands.

Corps: fired 10 inderdiction, 38 harassing, 1 vehicle, and 9 counterbattery missions, one of which was Arty/R on a 6 gun battery with effect reported as good. Rounds expended were 356.

Antiaircraft: 109th AAA Gp claimed 4 emeny craft destroyed and 3 probably shot down by 103rd AAA AW Bn (M) when a number of FW 190's and ME 109's strafed in 1st Division zone at an altitude of about 500 yards during the afternoon.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn was attached to the 1st Div, except C Co which was attached to 4th Div. Fired 146 rounds of HE and 21 rounds of APC. The 899th TD Bn was attached to the 9th Div and fired 15 rounds of AP and 45 rounds of HE direct. Destroyed 3 Mark V tanks, and 2 machine gun nests.

Prisoners captured by the Corps: 350.

8 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps continued to eliminate enemy infiltration and consolidate positions on 8 August, following determined German attempts to sever the First and Third Armies. The several attempts made by the enemy were disorganized and scattered by the efforts of air and artillery supporting our ground troops before any major counter drive could be launched.

Infiltration was tried by the Germans several times in the vicinity of ST. BARTHELMY, north of BELLE FONTAINE woods at 542162, and southwest of MORTAIN. Tactical reconnissance conducted by the IX TAC reported heavy vehicular and armored traffic in the vicinity of GER (6913) and southwest of SURDEVAL (6018). In the MAYENNE sector elements of the 9th Panzer Division and the 708th Infantry Division continued active patrolling, but did not attempt to mount real counter-thrust.

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30th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division, and RCT 12, 4th Infantry Division, attached): Severed enemy penetration in the vicinity of LE MESNIL TOVE (5216) and eliminated opposition of infiltrating troops in this area. Re-established defensive positions along the general line BARTHELMY (5714)-ROMAGNY (5609) and repelled enemy efforts to penetrate our lines in the vicinity of MORTAIN. Efforts to resupply the 2nd Battalion of the 120th Infantry were unsuccessful.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division attached): No major change in troop positions was made, although contact with the enemy was maintained by extensive patrolling.

35th Infantry Division: The 134th and 137th Regiments of this Division operated with the Corps and were committed. The 137th Infantry advanced against practically no resistance to take assigned objectives and established defensive positions. Enroute to its objective the 134th Infantry became engaged in a heavy fire fight and was held up southwest of MORTAIN.

4th Infantry Division: (RCT 39, 9th Division attached): Maintained defensive positions and contact with units on their flanks. A penetration of company strength was liquidated, and 86 of the enemy were taken prisoner.

9th Infantry Division: Continued the attack against stubborn resistance and made only small gains. Contact was made with the Division's detached 39th RCT by the 47th Infantry. The 60th Infantry reached its portion of the Division objective.

2nd Armored Division (Combat Command "A" attached to XIX Corps): Attacked north at 0600 in two columns, meeting with stiff opposition, but gaining 4.5 kilometers.

3rd Armored Division: Combat elements attached to 1st and 30th Armored Divisions.

30th Infantry Divisions

With Combat Command Boudinot of the 3rd Armored Division and RCT 12, 4th Division attached, the 30th Division continued to hold their present position and prevent enemy penetration west of the line CHERENCE LE ROUSSEL ST. BARTHELMY-MORTAIN. Enemy penetrations which had been made in the vicinity of LE MESNIL TOVE were severed, and the elimination of infiltrating troops in this sector continued. Defensive positions along the general line ST. BARTHELMY-ROMAGNY were re-established, and enemy bids to penetrate in the vicinity of MORTAIN were repelled. Efforts of the Division to supply the cut off 2nd Battalion of the 120th Infantry on Hill 317 east of MORTAIN were unsuccessful.

At 0800 the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 12th Infantry launched a counter attack to regain ST. BARTHELMY. The advance was very slow against fire from dug-in tanks, mortars and authomatic weapons. The 1st Battalion partially reached its objective. The 3rd Battalion in conjunction with the 1st Battalion of the 117th Infantry was preparing to resume the attack at daylight.

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Regimental Combat Team 119, less the 1st and 2nd Battalions, but bolstered by Task Force 1, Combat Command Boudinot, continued its efforts to the north to regain LE MESNIL TOVE. Against heavy fire of all types, supported by tanks, the advance was very slow, but the objective was reached at 1945. The 1st Battalion was attached to the 120th and the 2nd held in Division reserve.

The 120th RCT continued to occupy and defend the high ground in the vicinity of MORTAIN. Strong limited objective attacks were made to consolidate positions and annihilate small enemy groups which had infiltrated into the sector. At 0500 an enemy attack consiting of tanks and flame throwers and supported by infantry was checked by B Company, supported by heavy artillery fire, and a coordinated attack was launched at 0600 to retake the town of ROMAGNY. This objective was reached and positions consolidated by 1600. At 1700 a coordinated drive with F Company, 117th Infantry, was launched to drive out enemy resistance from the strong point between ROMAGNY and MORTAIN in an effort to relieve the pressure on the troops occupying the high ground east of the latter town. The 3rd Battalion of the Regiment less detachments was attached to the 2nd Armored Division.

Task Force 2, Combat Command Boudinot, made an attack to the north and northeast to cut the east-west road between LE MESNIL TOVE and GD. DOVE and establish contact between the 3rd Battalion, 119th Infantry, and the 1st Battalion of the 117th Infantry. Contact between these units was established and defensive positions taken up at 2200. Task Force 3 remained in reserve.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division with Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored, attached, continued active patrolling and consolidation of defensive positions with no change in their lines of any major consequence. During the night and throughout the day patrols were sent out by the 16th Regiment to CIGNY, and on the DOMFRONT road to the 87th grid. Contact was established and maintained with the 26th Infantry on the right.

Elements of the 2nd Battalion of the 26th, moved to GORRON and took up defensive positons, and E Company secured a river crossing. Enemy grouping for a possible counter-attack were blasted by artillery and disorganized. The 18th RCT with the 24th Cavalry covering the left flank, patroled toward LASSAY, and river crossings between MORTAIN and AMBRIERES LE GRAND were protected.

35th Infantry Division

The 35th Division had the 134th and 137th Regimental Combat Teams operating with the Corps. One battalion of the 134th Infantry advanced toward the line 559055-559086 and made contact with the enemy, at 560055. The remainder of the Regiment reached ST. JEAN DU CORAIL (607062) -LES BIGNES (635-053) by 1200. The 35th Division was ordered to attack to close the gap between MORTAIN and BARENTON and thereafter defend the sector MORTAIN- RJ at 703003.

The 137th Infantry advanced east from assembly area east of the ST. HILAIRE-LOUVIONE Road against practically no resistance, reached their objective

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and established defensive positions in the vicinity of 639023-695000. En-route to their objective elements of the 134th Infantry became engaged in a heavy fire fight with enemy infantry and tanks and were held southwest of MORTAIN in the vicinity of 580060 at the close of the period. Except for the 2nd Battalion area of the 134th CT, Division objectives along the MORtain-Barenton- ST. CYR DU RAILEUL Highway were taken.

4th Infantry Division

The 4th Division maintained defensive positions and contact with units on the flanks. The 8th Infantry maintained defensive positions and prevented enemy infiltration from the southeast. Roads within LE ROUSSEL were kept open by the 2nd Battalion and contact established with Combat Command Boudinot at 1400. Company B moved by truck to the area west of LA BARONNEIRE; detrucked in the vicinity of LA MARDELLE and remained in position at LA BARONNEIRE after being relieved by I Company of the 22nd Infantry at LA MARDELLE. In this operation 86 prisoners were taken. Hill 211 continued to be held by K Company.

After remaining in defensive positions until 1100 the 22nd CT moved to a new area with Company L relieveing C Company on Hill 230 at 1400, and contact was established with 2nd Battalion of the 47th Infantry Regiment (9th Division). K Company occupied positions in the vicinity of LONGEARD (526198). Contact was also maintained with the 2nd Battalion of the 39th Infantry, which was attached to the 4th Division from the 9th Division.

Elements of the 39th Infantry were counter-attacked at 0100 and C Company forced to yield a 1000yards to enemy pressure. Infiltration of approximately a company of infantry, between A and B Companies was mopped up by B Company of the 8th Infantry. Contact was maintained with the enemy.

Task Force Welborn, 3rd Armored Division, maintained OPL which extended from PONTERIE (463194) to BRECEY (420200) to LA BALLERIE (402247) to ST. LAURENT DE CUVES (456228) and patrolled routes and established road blocks. Contact was established with Combat Command B on the west.

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Division continued the attack against stubborn resistance and made only very slight gains. The 47th Infantry advanced to contact the 39th Infantry's defensive positions. The attack jumped off at 1100 with the 1st and 2nd Battalions abreast following an artillery preparation. The 1st Battalion was immediately stopped by machine gun, mortar and artillery from the front, left flank and left rear. The fire from the left flank and rear appeared to come from the 60th Infantry. Company B was ordered to go through LA NAZIERE (540225) to the high ground in the vicinity of 547227 to spot the source of the fire, but encountered mortar and artillery fire enroute and met an enemy force near LA HARDONNIERE (540225). After dispersing the enemy they dug in for the night. Company A moved after dark to be in position to attack with B Company in the morning. The remainder of the Battalion did not advance during the day. Meanwhile, the 2nd Battalion moved forward to establish contact with the 39th Infantry and the 3rd Battalion remained in reserve

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The attack was resumed by the 60th Infantry at 1030 to eliminate enemy resistance on the objectives and organize defenses to the east. The 1st and 3rd Battalions advanced to the east and secured favorable defensive positions, although encountering small enemy groups waging a delaying action. The 2nd Battalion, on the right flank, moved east and south under heavy machine gun and mortar fire from the high round to the south, and secured positions on the right (south) flank (548230)-(545222).

2nd Armored Division

Combat Command B attacked at 0800 with the LD on the east-west road through BARENTON towards an objective of the high ground north in the vicinity of GER. The first three intermediate objectives were reached by each column. Progress was slow because of the difficult terrain, mine fields and anti-tank guns. The left column was withdrawn for the night to more favorable terrain. Along the advance of some 3 miles road blocks were established and plans made to renew the attack in the morning.

ARTILLERY

1st Division: Fired 590 rounds mainly on enemy infantry missions. One mission fired on enemy battery located by sound.

4th Division: Fired 3 registrations, 42 close support, 3 counter-attack, 1 tank, and 6 interdiction missions, expending 1735 rounds.

9th Division: Fired 11 counterbattery, 17 tank, and 94 close support missions, and expended 1799 rounds.

Other division did not report.

Corps: Fired 1 registration, 2 harassing, 31 interdiction, and 12 counterbattery missions. Four of the counterbattery missions were fired by Arty/R. Rounds expended: 1115.

Sound locators showed no report on any location, revealling the enemy was using roving guns.

Antiaircraft: 109th AAA Gp claimed 1 of 3 FW 190's engaged by 116th AAA gun Bn was shot down. Raids appeared to be intermittant bombing on chance targets with aid of flares. Bombs were dropped in the vicinity of JUVIGNY, MORTAIN, MAYENNE with resultant fires in the latter town. No serious damage was reported.

Tank Destroyers: 629th TD Bn, attached to 30th Div, moved from position with V Corps to 30th Div sector at 080400. The Battalion destroyed 4 enemy tanks by 0630. One M-10 was damaged by a single round of ricochet fire striking bogey suspension. No casualties. 634th TD Bn remained attached to the 1st Div, except for the Co (C) with 4th Div. Fired 26 rounds of AP and 184 rounds of HE direct fire on 6-7 August destroying 2 Mk V and 3 Mk IV enemy tanks, and 5 vehicles GP. 3 M-10's lost due to enemy direct fire.

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823rd TD Bn, attached to 30th Div, fired 529 rounds of APC, and 554 rounds of HE direct fire, destroying 3 Mk VI, 5 Mk V and 6 Mk IV tanks, 7 vehicles, and 1 machine gun nest. The Battalion lost 11-3 inch with prime movers (half-tracks) destroyed or captured, and 1-¼ton destroyed, and 1-1½ ton truck and trailer destroyed. Casualties consisted of 3 EM killed and 14 EM wounded, 89 EM and 2 officers missing in action. 899th TD Bn, attached 9th Division, fired 75 rounds of AP and 64 rounds of HE direct fire, destroying 1 Mk V and 2 Mk IV's, 1 S/P gun, and 2 machine gun nests.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 297.

9 AUGUST 1944

Renewed Corps attacks to eleminate the enemy threat from the east on 9 August met with very stubborn resistance, and practically no advance was made by our troops. However, a large number of enemy were annihilated and over 450 taken prisoner according to G-2 estimates.

Enemy groups supported by artillery and in some cases by three to five tanks operating with infantry attempted several counter-attacks against the Corps salient but all were unsuccessful in penetrating our defenses. Most of these attacks came in the vicinity of LE MONT TURCON (5418)- the road junction at ST. BARTHELMY (5714)- and southwest of MORTAIN (5810). The enemy also made frequent attempts to break across the DOMFRONT-BARENTON road without succes. Vigorous resistance met our advance toward MORTAIN which the enemy tenaciously held with the 2nd Battalion of the 120th Infantry still cut off. In the vicinity of MAYENNE activity was limited to patrolling. Tactical air reconnissance still revealed that a large number of enemy vehicles continued milling around in the vicinity of the GER-SOURDEVAL-MORTAIN area.

Some tanks and artillery continued in support of enemy infantry, and his aerial activity was more pronounced than for several days. The 2nd Armored was heavily attacked by a dozen or more bombers in the early morning hours before daylight.

30th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division and RCT 12, 4th Infantry Division attached): Attacked to relieve 2nd Battalion, 120th Infantry Regiment, east of MORTAIN, but was unable to effect relief. Absorbed or repelled several relatively small counter-attacks and consolidated positions regained.

1st Infantry Division (Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division attached): No major change in troop positions was made, although contact with the enemy was maintained by extensive patrolling.

35th Infantry Division: The 320th Infantry Regiment was committed in the sector of the 134th Infantry to assist in the drive toward MORTAIN (5810). The enemy fought stubbornly for the ground southwest of the town.

4th Infantry Division (RCT 12 attached to 30th Infantry Division): Was in Corps reserve and maintained perimeter defense, prepared for possible movement of one RCT on two hours' notice to reinforce the 30th Division.

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9th Infantry Division: RCT 39 reverted to Division control at 091200. Division continued the attack to the south against very stiff opposition and made small gains.

2nd Armored Division: Both columns attacked north and met heavy resistance making little progress.

3rd Armored Division: Combat elements attached to 1st and 30th Infantry Divisions.

30th Infantry Division

The 30th Division for the third day in succession made unsuccessful attempts to relieve the isolated 2nd Battalion of the 120th. The unit was supplied by air. Several enemy counter-threats were repelled by the Division and positions continued to be consolidated.

The 117th Infantry continued its attack at 0700 to regain defensive positions but was unable to advance. At 1600 a coordinated attack was launched with adjacent units, but the advance was limited to approximately 100 yards due to strong resistance with infantry being supported by dug-in tanks, artillery and mortars. The 2nd Battalion was attached to the 120th Infantry, and the 3rd Battalion of the 12th Infantry, under 117th Infantry who controled the day's operations.

Supported by Task Forces 1 and 2 of the 3rd Armored's Combat Command Boudinot, the 119th Infantry renewed its attack to secure the high ground northeast of LE MESNIL TOVE for better defensive positions and to cut the highway running northeast from LE ROUSSEL to ST. BARTHELMY. The advance was very slow due to continuous, heavy concentrations of enemy artillery from dug-in tanks, and self-propelled and automatic weapons. Heavy casualties were suffered by the armor and infantry. Just prior to dark the armor from Task Forces 1 and 2, 3rd Armd Division, were relieved by armored infantry, and the 3rd Battalion moved to defiladed positions. Contact from left to right with the 39th and 117th Infantry was established.

Reinforced by the 1st Battalion of the 119th Infantry and the 2nd Battalion of the 117th Infantry, the 120th Infantry Regiment attacked to seize the high ground northeast of MORTAIN and open a supply route to the beleaguered 2nd Battalion on Hill 317. Slight advance was made by the attached 119th unit on the right flank, but other troops were unable to progress due to resistance from enemy strong points. The 3rd Battalion was attached to the 2nd Armored Division.

Regimental Combat Team 12 from the 4th Division continuing to operate in the 30th Division sector, made an unsuccessful attempt to cut the road running north and south from ST. BARHELMY to MORTAIN. Strong resistance of the usual tank-artillery-mortar supported infantry type was met immediately after the attack at 1600, 8 hours after the initial attack opened, and an attempt was made to circle to the northeast to gain the objective, but this too proved unsuccessful in the face of heavy fire from tanks and self-propelled guns.

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9 August

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Combat Command Boudinot of the 3rd Armored Division was organized into three task forces. Task Forces 1 and 2 were attached to the 119th Infantry. Task Force 3 with the attached 2nd Battalion of the 119th Infantry, attacked through the zone of the 120th Infantry to seize RJ 239 (582131), and after overcoming strong opposition reached its objective at 2055.

4th Infantry Division

The 39th RCT reverted from 4th Division control to the 9th Infantry when the former Division remained in Corps reserve, maintaining a perimeter defense, prepared for possible movement of one RCT on two hours notice to reinforce the 30th.

9th Infantry Division

Only very small gains were made by the 9th Division in their attempt to move southward. The 39th RCT beat off a small counter-attack at 2200. The 3rd Battalion held previous positions and the 1st Battalion protected the right flank of the 39th Infantry.

With the 1st and 2nd Battalions abreast the 47th Infantry attacked at 1100. They were held up on the left in the 1st Battalions zone by heavy fire from the high ground to the northeast. Company A could not get to the line of departure with Company B and "tie-in" with the 60th Infantry on the north (left) flank. The 2nd Battalion was able to advance slightly to the southeast along the low ground on its right flank. Final positions were secured along the 545 vertical grid line.

While the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 60th remained in position, the 2nd Battalion attacked south at 0800 with the mission of securing the high ground to the southeast from which to defend. Heavy opposition was met in the vicinity of 543226 which Company F was ordered to outflank from the west. This action met with some success and by 1300 it had gained 300 yards. Further attempts to advance were repelled. Company E moved east along the north flank to relieve pressure against F Company. Persistant enemy action prevented any further progress, and the Battalion dug in for the night.

1st Infantry Division

There were no major changes in troop positions among the 1st Division units as contact was maintained with the enemy, and patrols were active to the front and flanks. 1st Battalion patrols of the 16th Regiment found enemy patrols with a tank at 831757 which was knocked out by artillery fire. Companies C and B patrolled to BILLEDUEIRE and LA VERRIRE, respectively, and I and R patrols went to LE BOURG NEUF. The 18th Infantry sent elements to CIGNY and ST. LOUP DE GAST was cleared out including a pill-box which was burned. The 26th Infantry also conducted active patrols to all adjacent units.

2nd Armored Division

At daylight Combat Command B of the 2nd Armored, occupied positions on the edge of the FORET DE MORTAIN, generally at 6607 and 6608, at which

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2nd Armored Division

At daylight Combat Command B of the 2nd Armored, occupied positions on the edge of the FORET DE MORTAIN, generally at 6607 and 6608, at which

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time reconnaissance was pushed and immediately encountered heavy machine gun, mortar and artillery fire. Reconnaissance developed the resistance until 0930 when the Combat Command launched an attack which produced steady but slow progress due to stiff opposition and difficult terrain. At the end of the day a gain of about a mile had been made with the Combat Command holding the high ground in the vicinity of 672098. The 82nd Recon Battalion operated on the flanks of the advance and to the east and southeast throughout the period, and were engaged in blowing bridges along the VARENNE River. Bridges over the stream were blown at 758005 and 752016.

35th Infantry Division

Additional efforts to relieve the pressure on MORTAIN were made with the committment of the 320th Infantry in the zone of the already engaged 134th Infantry, but the enemy showed no inclination to give up the ground southwest of the town without a struggle. By 1730 the leading elements of the 2nd Battalion, 320th Infantry were at LA GALPICHERIE (587085), and the tank column was along the road north of CLAIRET (592097).

At the close of the period the 2nd Battalion of the 320th Infantry was in the vicinity of LA GALPICHERIE and the 1st Battalion along the SELUNE River at 582122. The 1st Battalion of the 134th Infantry reached LA PORCHERIE, the 2nd Battalion of the 137th Infantry was west of LA CORDOUSIERE (694000), and the 3rd Battalion of this Regiment deployed along a line that ran from just north of LA HOULERIE, through the village and southeast (592070-593066).

Artillery

1st Division: fired 4 counterbattery, 4 harassing, 17 infantry, and 14 tank and vehicle missions. Rounds expended: 715.

2nd Armd Division: fired 1 preparation, 2 supply dump, 8 harassing, 3 vehicle, 1 infantry, and 5 tank missions. In addition 22 missions were fired in repelling a counter-attack. Rounds expended were approximately 2500.

3rd Armd Division: operating with combat commands under 1st and 30th Infantry Divisions. Activity included in the report of these Divisions.

4th Division: fired 1 close support, 3 counterbattery and 4 interdiction missions, expending 176 rounds.

9th Division: fired 9 counterbattery, 2 tanks and 78 close support missions with a total expenditure of 2369 rounds.

30th Division: fired 5 registration, 3 smoke, 19 counterbattery, 6 machine gun, 2 tank, 11 enemy vehicle, 18 infantry, 20 interdiction, and 80 harassing mission with a total expenditure of 5112 rounds.

35th Division: fired 71 missions on enemy tanks, strong points and in close support of friendly infantry.

Antiaircraft: report destroyed.

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Corps: fired 3 registration, 3 harassing, and 23 counterbattery missions. One of the counterbattery missions was fired by Arty/R and 10 by air OP.

Tank Destroyers: 629th TD Bn fired 12 rounds AP and 76 rounds of HE direct fire. Destroyed 1 Pz Mk V, 1 vehicle GP and 2 machine gun nests. Co C, 703rd TD Bn destroyed 1 Pz Mk V tank and 1 probable, type unknown. 803rd TD Bn destroyed 2 Pz Mk IV tanks, 8 personnel carriers, and captured 15 PWs. Co C, 899th TD Bn fired 20 rounds HE direct supporting fire at hedgerows and points of resistance to infantry.

Prisoners of War captured by Corps: 450. (Approximate G-2 estimate)

10 AUGUST 1944

The Corps attack to the east and north met determined opposition and gained little ground. Regrouping for a new mission began.

The enemy continued to fight a stubborn defensive battle with infantry and artillery at 0645. The Germans launched a small counter-attack of company strength supported by a few tanks two kilometers northwest of BARENTON but it was quickly contained. The VI Corps units, however, were unable to make any sustained progress throughout the day to ease the situation around MORTAIN, and the 2nd Battalion of the 120th Infantry Regiment continued to be cut off by groups of enemy forces to the east of the town.

30th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division, and RCT 12, 4th Infantry Division, attached): Continued pressure to the east and consolidated defensive positions. The Division was again unable to establish contact with the isolated 2nd Battalion of the 120th Regiment, but supply was performed by air.

9th Infantry Division (RCT 8, 4th Infantry Division attached): Attacked east to complete capture of Division objective, but were by the stiff opposition of the enemy and made little advance. 8th Infantry maintained its defensive positions prior to and after being attached to the Division.

35th Infantry Division: The 1st Battalion, 320th Infantry (reinforced) reached the outskirts of MORTAIN (5810). Other units in the Division made little progress.

2nd Armored Division (Combat Command A attached to XIX Corps): Attack north was delayed when the enemy counter-attacked at 0530 and were repulsed with heavy casualties. The attack was further delayed by the necessity of mopping up infiltrating parties.

4th Infantry Division (RCT's 8 and 12 attached as above): Moved to new positions near LE TEILLEUL (6298) without opposition and established road blocks and new defenses.

1st Infantry Division: (Continued to maintain defensive positions and conducted patrolling.

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3rd Armored Division. Combat elements attached as above.

30th Infantry Division

Reinforced by Combat Command Boudinot of the 3rd Armored Division and the 12th Regimental Combat Team from the 4th Division, the 30th Division continued pressure to the east and consolidated positions. All efforts to establish contact with the isolated battalion failed.

Again the 117th Regiment made little progress in continuing its attack to regain original defensive positions. At 1600 the Regiment took the active defense on their present position, consolidating and improving their sector.

The 119th Infantry with the two Task Forces of The Combat Command attached, renewed its attack at 0630. Initially resistance was light but as the objective of the high ground northeast of LE MESNIL TOVE was approached, the opposition increased. By 1100 the objective had been occupied, and the road running northeast from LE ROUSSEL to BARTHELMY cut. Task Forces 1 and 2, less the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 33rd Armored Infantry Regiment, were relieved from attachment at 2100. The 2nd Battalion was attached to the 120th Infantry and the 3rd Battalion to Task Force 3, Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division.

The 120th Infantry made only a slight advance to relieve the pressure southwest of MORTAIN and bring relief to its 2nd Battalion still cut off on Hill 317, east of the town. Efforts to reopen the supply route to the Battalion again failed and they were supplied by air. The advance which the 1st Battalion of the 119th Infantry made earlier, came to a complete stop at 1750 when it was ordered to take up defensive positions and maintain contact with the units to its right and left. Other units in the Division continued to defend their portions of the sector and consolidate defensive positions. The isolated 2nd Battalion, 120th Regiment, on the high ground northeast of MORTAIN continued to defend against all enemy pressure and to harass the enemy with well directed artillery fire. Class I, II, and III supplies were dropped to the beleagured unit at 1600.

9th Infantry Division

In the 9th Division some a slight advance was made which straightened the lines as a portion of the northern sector of the 47th Infantry's objective was secured as was part of the 60th Infantry's southern sector of the objective. The 39th Infantry made no advance. The 1st Battalion held previous positions and withstood a minor attack on the left of Company C's position. The 3rd Battalion held in place, and the 2nd maintained contact with the 47th Infantry on the left flank. G Company adjusted on two tanks, knocking out both, and patrolling was conducted between units and to the flanks.

The 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, moved east from the Division reserve to take the objective in the vicinity of 543217 by way of the high ground in the lower end of the 60th Infantry's sector. The Battalion met severe resistance from the front and left flank at 541219. Company I maneuvered on the left flank to LA LEVERIE (551227) and succeeded in eliminating resistance

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from the left flank. Companies K and L then pushed forward against heavy resistance and reached the high ground at 547217. The battalion suffered heavy casualties in the operation. The 2d Battalion attacked east toward PERRIERS DE BRANFION. After moving forward for some 500 yards they met heavy opposition and could go no farther. The 1st Battalion moved into assembly area at 541218, closing the gap between the 2d and 3d Battalions and all prepared defensive positions for the night.

The 2d Battalion of the 60th Infantry supported the 3d Bn 47th Infantry's attack. When the 3d Battalion of the 47th Infantry cleared its front, the 2d then moved east and secured defensive positions in contact with units on its flanks. A strong point was organized on Hill 302 (543227) by a platoon from Company F.

35th Infantry Division

Some progress was made in the 35th Division zone in their northeast drive. The 1st Battalion of the 320th Infantry, reinforced, reached the outskirts of MORTAIN. Other units made only little gain. The 2d and 3d Bns supplied the attacking force in the 320th Infantry's push, and against stubborn resistance succeeded in driving a wedge between the enemy forces, dividing the pocket of resistance in the Division zone. The 1st Bn moved between midnight and daylight to an assembly position in the vicinity VILLECHIEN. In conjunction with the 737th Tank Battalion the 1st Bn joined the Regimental attack and aided in the push that carried to the CR south of MORTAIN and the forward slope of Hill 317. The attack was supported by Division Artillery which fired a total of 205 missions during the period.

2d Armored Division

In attacking north the 2d Armd Div was delayed when the enemy launched a counterattack at 0530 which was repulsed with heavy casualties. Further delay was caused due to the necessity of mopping up infiltrating parties. When the enemy counterattacked, Combat Command B was occupying the high ground generally at 665102 and 681102. The German force consisted of infantry, tanks and automatic weapons, supported by artillery, mortars, and Nebelwerfer. By 0800 the enemy attack was broken up with the resulting heavy losses to him.

The remainder of the day was spent in mopping up the positions taken yesterday and in reorganization. For the night all roads and trails were covered by tank destroyers, tanks or AT guns. Roads were farther blocked physically and mined in the enemy direction. Patrols were sent out by all units occupying front line positions.

4th Infantry Division

The 4th Division moved without opposition from their defensive position in the vicinity of LE ROUSSEL to a new division area near LE TEILLEUL (6298) and prepared new defensive positions. The 12th Infantry remained attached to the 30th Division. RCT 8 was attached to the 9th Div but remained in position.

1st Infantry Division

In the 1st Division sector defensive positions were improved and vigorous patrolling maintained. The 16th Infantry conducted active patrols to the front and flanks and kept in contact with adjacent units. Patrols from several companies drew fire from enemy groups to the north and east as contact was maintained with the German outposts. The 18th Infantry cleared CIGNE and patrolled to the outskirts of CHANTRIGNE where enemy halftracks were observed, and to within 200 yards of ST. LOUP DE GAST. Other patrols operated between CIGNE and DOMFRONT without

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encountering any enemy. A motorized patrol on the DOMFRONT--LESSAY Road received small arms and mortar fire at 842833, and at 1900 an ambush patrol was sent out to encircle to the rear of ST. LOUP DE GAST and cut enemy supply and ammunition lines. All positions of the 26th RCT were likewise maintained with active patrols out to the east, northeast and southeast to maintain contact with the enemy.

Artillery

1st Div: no report.
2d Armd Div: no missions fired.
3d Armd Div: fired 2 registrations, expending 15 rounds.
4th Div: no missions fired.
9th Div: fired 16 counterbattery, 3 tank, and 89 close support missions. Rounds expended were 3156.
30th Div: fired 13 registrations, 7 machine gun, 8 tank, 14 vehicle, 43 infantry, 50 harassing, 31 interdiction, 8 preparation, and 98 battery missions, expending a total of 5837 rounds.
35th Div: fired 11 enemy battery, 51 strong point, 2 tank, 3 OPs, 133 harassing rounds and interdiction, 3 smoke, and 2 missions marking targets for air bombardment. Rounds expended were 3683.
Corps: fired 2 registrations, 25 interdiction, 31 counterbattery, 1 strong point, 1 gas dump, 1 infantry on road, and 2 tank missions. Mission on gas dump was adjusted by AIR OP; the second round started a fire which was aggravated by 12 more rounds. The tank mission was adjusted by Arty/R; pilot reported 3 tanks knocked out. Rounds expended were 961.
Antiaircraft: Air activity in the forward area of the First United States Army was again concentrated in the VII Corps area. The 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged a formation of 8 bombers during the night, and the 448th AA AW Bn a FW 190 at 2240. No claims were made by our AA units. Between 0010 and 0035 8 bombers hit the 35th Infantry and 2d Armd Div areas, dropping 15-20 bombs. At 0212 and 0217 delayed action bombs, exploded, killing one man in the 195th AAA AW Bn and damaging 1 M-16 mount.
Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 6 rounds AP and 155 rounds of HE, destroying 2 enemy tanks (type unknown), and destroyed a large chateau at 835805 being used as an enemy CP. The 645th TD Bn fired 13 rounds of AP and 24 of HE, destroying 1 Pz Mk IV tank. Co C, 703d TD Bn fired 16 rounds of HE, destroying an 88mm S/P gun and enemy infantry strong points.

11 AUGUST

Only minor changes were made in the Corps front during the day. Limited objective attacks were made, and active patrolling was conducted to maintain contact with the enemy.

Strong defensive action by pockets of resistance, accompanied by two small counterattacks characterized the enemy's effort. At approximately 1430 and 1800 the Germans launched attacks with infantry and a few tanks, one at the intersection south of MORTAIN and the other on the main highway 4 kilometers south of GER. Both enemy thrusts were quickly contained. The Germans still continued to strongly defend GER and MORTAIN, and in the MAYENNE vicinity he was maintaining a strong counter reconnaissance screen, particularly at ARON and LE BOURG NOUVEL.

Armed reconnaissance flights were continued by the XIX TAC and of the two prearranged missions on heavy guns, one reported excellent results. About 150 prisoners

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were taken by the Corps during the period.

30th Infantry Division (Combat Command Boudinot, 3d Armd Div, and RCT 12, 4th Inf Div attached): Continued pressure on the enemy, and maintained defensive positions, but was unable to effect relief of the 2d Bn 120th Inf which remained cut off by the enemy on Hill 317, east of MORTAIN.

9th Infantry Division: Enemy resistance on this front lessened during the period. There was no contact with the enemy on the front of the 60th Infantry. The 47th Infantry continued contact with the foe but resistance was light, and the 39th Infantry again encountered moderate opposition.

35th Infantry Division: The 137th and 134th Infantry Regiments reached their objectives along the MORTAIN (5810)-BARENTON (6605) Road. The 320th Regiment was nearing its objective at the close of the day, although unable to reach the 2d Bn of the 120th Infantry.

2d Armored Division (Combat Command "A" attached to XIX Corps): Continued vigorous patrolling and maintained defensive positions. Repelled a counterattack inflicting considerable losses on the enemy.

3d Armored Division (Combat Command Boudinot attached to 30th Division): Moved into an assembly area awaiting a new mission.

1st Infantry Division: Maintained defenses and conducted extensive patrols to continue contact with the enemy.

4th Infantry Division: (RCT 12 attached to 30th Division; RCT 8 reverted to Division control from 9th Division at 1400): Remaining units occupied and prepared defensive positions.

30th Infantry Division

Units of the 3d Armored Division attached to the 30th Division dug-in and maintained defensive positions while pressure was continued against the enemy. Task Force 1 dug-in in the area south of LE MESNIL TOVE, and Task Force 2 occupied positions near GRAND DOVE (5516), while Task Force 3 maintained road blocks from 583129 to 582158. The infantry units, including the attached 14th RCT from the 4th Division, met determined resistance and made no advance. Task Force 3 and the 12th Inf made a determined effort to secure RJ 580130 and the highground to the north, but no material advance was made due to heavy AT, artillery and mortar fire.

Efforts to reopen supply routes to the isolated 2d Battalion of the 120th Inf were again unsuccessful with the unit continuing to defend their cut off position on Hill 317. Planes again dropped supplies, and medical aid was sent to the Battalion by artillery.

2d Armored Division

At the beginning of the period Combat Comand B of the 2d Armd Div, was in the vicinity of LA CONERIE, north of the FOREST DE MORTAIN (665102 and 668102) with patrols operating to the front and flanks at daylight. One patrol penetrated the LANDE POURRIE forest (T7010), and another, moving towards CERI, made contact with the enemy. Heavy German AA fire was observed in the vicinity of BUTTE DUGLOS (6[illegible]2) and artillery and mortar fire fell continuously throughout the day on the Combat Command positions.

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The enemy counterattacked at 1745 from the northeast near 690094, using his usual artillery and mortar support for the infantry. His thrust was stopped at 690094, with heavy enemy losses, but some infiltration was made at that point. The Division Reserve moved to the vicinity of BARENTON and took up defensive positions in preparation to taking over the Combat Command's positions so that the Command might continue its attack north, 12 August.

Commencing at 1500 the division CP and vicinity was shelled for an hour. After air reconnaissance and flash and sound had located the gun shelling as a railway gun, air was placed on the gun, and the shelling ceased.

35th Infantry Division

In the 35th Division zone of action the 134th and 137th Infantry Regiments reached their objectives along the MORTAIN-BARENTON Road. The 320th Infantry encountered more opposition and at the close of the day were nearing its objective, but had been unable to reach the 30th Division's isolated 2d Battalion of the 120th Inf. The 3d Bn of the 134th and 137th Infantrys were both detached and attached to these respective units. The 137th Infantry pushed its 1st Bn and the 134th Infantry's 3d Bn to their objectives. The 2d Bn was relieved in this zone by the 22d Infantry at 1200 and reverted to reserve.

The 320th Inf withthe reinforced 737th Tank Battalion and other attachments continued their attack to the east throughout the day with the 2d and 3d Battalions, while the 1st Bn maintained its position in the vicinity of RJ 588093. Elements of the 737th Tank Battalion withdrew from the vicinity of RJ 591095 to the battalion area for servicing during the night of 11-12 August. Div Arty fired a total of 224 missions during the day expending 3276 rounds of ammunition.

3d Armored Division

Combat Command Hickey of the 3d Armd Div reverted to Division control at 1500 with all elements remaining in assembly area throughout the day except one battle group attached to the 2d Armd Div. The 83d Recn Bn maintained an outpost line to the east of Combat Command Boudinot in the zone of the 30th Division.

4th Infantry Division

The 4th Div established defesnvie positions and conducted patrols in its zone of action. The 8th Infantry reverted to Division control at 1400 and was alerted for movement south by truck to an assembly area in the vicinity of DESERTINES (6390). The head of the column crossed the IP at CUVES (4719) at 1751, and the 3d Bn closed in the area at 2300 with the remainder enroute at the close of the day.

Patrols were initisted by the 22d Infantry to reconnoiter the area east to LA VARENNE River. The 3d Bn relieved elements of the 137th Inf at 1130. Road blocks and outpost lines were established and vigorous patrolling was conducted throughout the period. Task Force A took over the area on the western edge of LE TEILLEUL.

1st Infantry Division

Extensive patrols were likewise maintained by the 1st Div to keep contact with the enemy and assertain his intentions. The 16th Infantry had pickets out as far as ARON, and one G Company patrol went to 837690. 18th Inf contacted the enemy at CIGNE and others went to CHANTRIGNE and on to LE CHEVRIE. At 1635 Regimental patrols made

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contact with the enemy at 821850 on both sides of the road north of 820847. At 2300 contact was made by patrols from the 26th Inf with the 16th Inf pickets. At 2020 the 2d Bn was detached from the 3d Armd Div, but remained in their position in reserve. Elements of the 1st Recn Tr destroyed an ammunition dump of 37mm shells along the JUBLIANS-MONT SURS Road. Elements of the 1st Combat Engrs laid south of AMBRIERES some minefields and constructed a footbridge there (811817).

9th Infantry Division

Operation in the 9th Division zone found final objectives being reached. The 47th Infantry held the 3d Battalion on its objective, the 1st Bn in reserve in the vicinity of LINGEARD (539217), and the 2d Battalion prepared to renew its attack on the objective of PERRIERS EN BEAUFICE (5420). Patrols sent out at daylight by the 2d and 3d Bns reported a general enemy withdrawal to the east, and at 0900 the 2d Bn moved out against scattered light opposition to PERRIERS EN BEAUFICE (5420), and the commanding ground to the north. Patrols were sent as far as the streamline directly east of BEAUFICE and also to the north on BEAUFICE-GATHEMO Road where contact was made with the 109th Inf of the 28th Div (XIX Corps) some 400 yards south of the latter town. Contact was also made with the 113th Cavalry. The 1st Bn moved to the vicinity of 555196 and took up defensive positions just south of the 2d Bn. During the move the Bn encountered automatic weapons and mortar fire from the east. At 1500 the 2d Bn of the 60th Inf was attached to the 47th Inf and remained in position on the left (north) flank.

The 60th Inf in conducting active patrolling to its front had determined by 0500 that the enemy had withdrawn and the 2d and 3d Bn moved to secondary defensive positions behind the 39th Inf. The 2d and 3d Bns of this latter regiment patrolled to the front and flanks and the 2d Bn tied in the left (north) flank with the 47th Inf. Companies A and B advanced east approximately 700 yards to the nose of the ridge and C Company patrolled to the front toward Hill 180 and LES GORGES (5517) where they drew machinegun fire.

Artillery

1st Div: fire 7 registrations, 18 infantry, 3 vehicles, 11 counterbattery, 1 preparation, 9 harassing, 1 tank, 2 mortar, and 3 nebelwerfer missions, expending 1140 rounds.

9th Div: fired 2 counterbattery, 2 tank and 42 close support missions. Rounds expended were 1722.

30th Div: fire 14 counterbattery, 5 mortar, 3 machinegun, 39 tank, 7 vehicle, and 27 close support missions--a total expenditure of 5916 rounds.

Corps: fired 3 preparation, 13 counterbattery, 5 harassing, 3 tank and vehicle, 6 CP, 4 registration, 1 smoke, 18 neutralization, and 21 interdiction missions. Rounds expended were 1843.

Antiaircraft: Air activity continued to be concentrated in the zone of the VII Corps with the enemy making numerous raids during the hours of 110000 to 110600. Approximately 20 bombers were over the area 5 kilometers north of ST. HILAIRE between 2245 and 0300. White flares were dropped at 0330 and answered by green flares from German ground troops southwest of MORTAIN. No claims were made by our AA units in this area.

In the vicinity of CONRON and LAYENNE 6 FW-190's and Me 109's strafed roads from 1805 to 1816, reportedly using rockets. The 474th AAA AW Bn (S/P) claimed 2 "Cat I's" and 1 "Cat II" while the 103d AAA AW Bn claimed 1 "Cat I".

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Tank Destroyers: B Co, 634th TD Bn fired 49 rounds of AP and 181 rounds of HE, destroying 1 SP gun and an enemy OP.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 150.

12 August 1944

The VII Corps reorganized its forces in preperation for the attack to the northeast with the mission of assisting to cut off and destroy or capture the withdrawing enemy. Enemy resistance was very light throughout the 12 August and the Corps reorganized its forces for a new attack to the northeast with the mission of assisting First U.S. Army in cutting off and destroying or capturing the enemy in conjunction with the First U.S. Army Corps and British-Canadian forces operating from the northeast.

Opposition during the day consited primarily of strong pockets of resistance left as a delaying force to cover the withdrawl of the main body. Only one small counter-attack which quickly collapsed, was launched by the enemy. MORTAIN was cleared of the enemy, elements of the 10th SS Division occupying the reverse slope of a hill at 6609 were caught in an assembly area at 0630 hours and suffered heavy casualties, ARON was evacuated by the enemy, and only forces estimated at company strength left in the following towns: CHANTRIGNE, ST. LOUP DE GAST, and CIGNE.

30th Infantry Division (RCT 12, 4th Infantry Division attached): Maintained pressure on the enemy against continued, but reduced resistance. 2nd Battalion, 120th Infantry was relieved on Hill 317, east of MORTAIN.

1st Infantry Division: Maintained extensive patrols and regrouped for attack.

9th Infantry Division: Attack met lessening resistance. The Division occupied and organized objectives, and after being pinched out began movement to the south.

2nd Armored Division (Combat Command A attached to XIX Corps): After repulsing a minor counter-attack, assumed defensive positions.

4th Infantry Division (RCT 12 attached to 30th Infantry Division): Maintained defensive positions.

3rd Armored Division: Moved to new attack assembly area.

30th Infantry Division

The 30th Division continued limited objective attacks to restore original defensive positions and at 1158 relieved the 2nd Battalion of the 120th Infantry.

With the 2nd Battalion of the 117th Infantry and 1st Battalion of the 119th Infantry pushed east, gaining better defensive positions and relieving their 2nd Battalion on Hill 317. The 2nd Battalion then moved to an assembly area in Division reserve. The 117th Infantry's 2nd Battalion was relieved from attach-

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ment to 120th Infantry at 1917 and attached to the 119th Infantry. The 1st Battalion of the 119th Infantry reverted to regimental control at that time.

The 119th Infantry with the 1st Battalion of the 33rd Armored Infantry attached until 1500, continued the defense of its zone. The 119th Infantry with the 2nd Battalion of the 117th Infantry, 3rd Battalion of the 120th Infantry and elements of the 743rd Tank Battalion was ordered to relieve the 320th Infantry of the 35th Division at 1800. At 2400 the Regiment with its attachments was in the process of relieving the 35th Division unit.

After conducting active patrolling during the morning, the 117th Infantry learned from reports of patrols, who had been probing enemy lines, that resistance to their front was negligible and at 1100 limited attacks were made to gain better defensive positions with the objectives reached at 1700. At 2400 the Regiment was in the process of extending its flank to relieve elements of the 119th Infantry on the right. The 3rd Battalion of the 12th Infantry was released from attachement and reverted to control of the 12th RCT.

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Hickey of the 3rd Armored remained in assembly area south of GORRON until 1600. At 1200 Combat Command Boudinot reverted to Division control. At 1600 the Division moved to assembly positions, with Combat Command Hickey in the vicinity of SALAIR on the northern edge of BOIS SALAIR (7670) and Combat Command Boudinot south of CISSEAU in the vicinity of LA BRIGANDIERE (770749), and prepared to attack to the northeast on the following day.

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Infantry of the 9th Division sent patrols forward at daylight, followed by Companies A and B which occupied objectives on the high ground east of LA MORANDIERE. The 2nd Battalion passed through the 1st Battalion to reach objective 3 in the same area, and at 1300 the 3rd Battalion occupied objective 1. At 1200 the 2nd Battalion of the 47th Infantry moved to assembly area in the vicinity of 525215, and at 1600 the 1st Battalion moved to the nigh ground northwest of LA SEE River in the vicinity of 555195. The 3rd Battalion relieved the 2nd Battalion of the 60th Infantry in the LE ROUSSEL area at 1800, and a rifle platoon and an anti-tank platoon relieved elements of the 9th Reconnaissance Troop at PERRIERS EN BEAUFICE. The 60th Infantry moved by motor to concealed bivouac at LES FROGERIES (757739), closing in the vicinity of that village at 2400.

1st Infantry Division

In the zone of the 1st Infantry patroling continued while preperations were made for the new attack. The 16th Infantry was in contact with the enemy from 0215 until 1900. A patrol from the 18th Infantry reinforced by three tanks moved into ST. LOUP DE GAST in the early morning and took no prisoners, but killed many Germans. A position of some 100 enemy was located and disorganized when their machine guns were knocked out. Light morters were used against the retreating foe with excellent results, and the patrol lost no men or material. The 2nd Battalion of the 26th Infantry was relieved from Division reserve at GORRON and reverted to Regimental control, completing the move by 2100. Other Regimental units conducted active patroling to the east.

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Division artillery fired missions on targets of opportunity during the day but were relatively quiet compared to the 10-11 August when 80 missions were fired. Batteries A, B, and D, 103rd and C and D of the 474th AAA (AW) Battalions fired on 6 FW 190s and ME 109s which came over at 1000 to 1500 feet. 37mm and .50 caliber hits were observed on three craft, two FWs bursting into flames and crashing, and the other began to smoke heavily and disappeared from view over the German lines while in a steep dive.

2nd Armored Division

In preparation for the attack to cut the MORTAIN-GER Road at T6713, the 2nd Armored Division moved the Reserve to protect the rear of Combat Command B which attacked at 1100 with two armored infantry battalions abreast. Because of hilly and abrupt terrain much of the ground was denied to our tanks. The left battalion was strongly resisted by enemy infantry, much automatic fire, and a great deal of mortar fire which came from positions protected from our artillery, and that side of the line was unable to advance. The right advanced approximately 800 yards with comparatively little difficulty. At 1725 hours an attack was launched by the Germans in the area about 2 kilometers northwest of BARENTON, but was quickly repulsed by the Division reserve.

4th Infantry Division

Remaining elements of the 8th CT enroute from detachment to the 9th Division to the vicinity of DESERTINES (6390) closed in the 4th Division assembly area at 0045. Roadblocks and outpost were immediately established and reconnaissance initiated eastward. The 3rd Battalion was attached to the 2nd Armored Division at 1800. The 12th RCT was detached from the 30th Division at 1200 and returned to Division control. The 22nd Infantry constructed roadblocks, extended their OPL to cover an enlarged area including the town of BARENTON which had been occupied by Company E, and conducted extensive patrolling and reconnaissance through the period.

Artillery

1st Division: fired 4 registrations, 2 infantry, 1 vehicle, and 3 counterbattery missions, expending 162 rounds.

3rd Armd Division: report not available.

4th Division: fired 1 registration, and 4 close support missions, expending 86 rounds.

9th Division: fired approximately 10 missions.

Corps: fired 3 counterbattery and 6 interdiction missions. Rounds expended were 149.

Tank Destroyers: no action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 84.

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13 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps' attack to the northeast met very light opposition and gained 40 kilometers with armored elements reaching RANES (1207). During the period the 30th and 35th Infantry Divisions and the 2nd Armored Division were relieved of attachment to the Corps.

About this time the build-up in enemy Panzer forces increased. The 2nd and the 116th Panzer Division that were already in the area were followed by the 1st SS Panzer (Adolph Hitler) Division, the 10th SS Panzer and the 2nd SS Panzer (Das Reich) Divisions. Although the "Das Reich" had suffered extremely heavy losses in prior engagements with the Corps it reappeared with indications that it included remnants of other forces, among them the 17th SS and possibly Pz "Lehr" Divisions.

VII Corps units were to push north and northeast to the boundary line of First Army, roughly LA FERRIERE - Hill 250 along the south bank of the tributary of LA ROUVRE River to BRIOUZE (exclusive) - through ST ANDRE DE BRIOUZE - MENIL GONDOUIN, southwest along L'ORNE and just southwest of ECOUCHE, where the British - Canadian forces pushing south were to form a junction with us, closing the trap on the Germans.

3rd Armored Division: Attacked at 0630 with Combat Command Hickey in two columns, Task Force "X" on east and Task Force "Y" on west. Very little opposition was encountered and good progress was made with elements of the east column reaching the Division objective in the vicinity of RANES (1207). Combat Command Boudinot and the Division Reserve followed along both routes without interference from the enemy. At 1600 RCT 60, 9th Infantry Division, was attached.

1st Infantry Division: Attacked northeast at 0630 with two regiments abreast and also made very good progress. Small enemy detachments made very brief stands along the route before pulling out in retreat. At close of period leading regiments were generally along the road between JUVIGNY (8998) and COUPTRAIN (0591).

9th Infantry Division (RCT 60 attached to 3rd Armored Division): Remainder of Division relieved of responsibility in zone of XIX Corps and moved to new assembly area in the vicinity of JAVRON.

4th Infantry Division: While 22nd Infantry outposted along Division front, remainder of units moved to new assembly area.

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Hickey of the 3rd Armored Division was preceded in its 0630 attack by the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion which jumped off an hour ahead of the Command. Task Force "X" of the Combat Command continued the attack throughout the day following the southern route and encountered resistance that was light at the start but which increased as they neared their objective. At 2030 they had secured the objective of RANES. Task Force "Y" striking along to the north encountered strong AT and machine gune fire in the vicinity of BELLEVILLE (043914) at 1130. By by-passing this strong resistance Task Force "Y" was able to reach Hill 311 (115955) south of PRE-EN-PAIL at the close of the period.

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Continuous air support in the form of column cover was furnished both columns of the command all day. Division Reserve received orders to move forward at 0950. Team 2, comprised of a company of infantry, tanks, tank destroyers and engineers each, followed Task Force "Y" on the northern route, and Team 1 followed in the rear of Task Force "X". Team 2 encountered and engaged the strong enemy forces at BELLEVILLE, which had been by-passed by the Task Force. Team 1 on the south route moved to PRE-EN-PAIL and attacked north to secure objectives in the vicinity of LA MOTTE FOQUET (070990).

Combat Command Boudinot was ordered to move forward at 1630 to secure the objective of JOUE-DU-BOIS. Task Force I moved northernly to the vicinity of COUPTRAIN. Task Force 2 moved by the southern route to near ST. CYR-EN-PAIL where it went into a tight leaguer for the night. The 60th Infantry moved via the southern route to PRE-EN-PAIL to relieve reconnaissance units of the regiment holding the southern approaches to the town. Regimental Headquarters and the 2nd Battalion moved forward by the southern route to join Task Force 2, Combat Command Boudinot.

1st Infantry Division

With the 18th and 26th Infantry Regiments abreast the 1st Division made excellent progress during the day. They were temporarily delayed at intervals by small detachments of enemy which caused the leading elements to deploy. At the close of the period both regiments were generally along the road between JUVIGNY (8998) and COUPTRAIN (0591).

The leading elements of the 18th Infantry crossed the LD at 0632 with the 2nd and 3rd Battalions abreasts, the latter on the right, and an hour later the leading elements of the 2nd Battalion were in the vicinity of CIGNE. At 0846 the 3rd Battalion was at 871867, approaching LA FASSE from the west and at 0925 the Battalion was pushing rapidly forward still without making contact with the enemy. It was this same time that a company of the 1st Battalion in half tracks, pushed through the 3rd Battalion to the objective. At 1112 the 2nd Battalion had reduced opposition and was moving forward with the enemy withdrawing in vehicles in the area of MELLERAY LA VALLEE (847885) and the 1st Battalion was assembling near MONTANTON (805836), moving forward by bounds. The 3rd Battalion closed on their intermediate objective (914912) at 1345. The Regiment continued the pursuit of the enemy, occasionally making contact with small delaying forces, which causing leading elements of our troops to deploy. The enemythen withdrew in great haste. At 1528 the 18th Infantry reported they were five minutes behind the enemy with the 3rd Battalion southwest of the LA MAYENNE at 907927, the 2nd Battalion south of BRETIGNOLLES (881913), and the 1st Battalion moving from assembly area to BRETIGNOLLES vicinity.

Two assault battalions paced the 26th Infantry's attack in conjunction with the 18th Infantry's. By 0745 the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, was in the area of LAVIEUA GAST and still moving without contact with the foe and the 2nd Battalion R[illegible] 102 (859775). The 2nd Battalion was approaching Phase Line 1 at 1156, near CHATENAY, south of LASSAY, which was reached also by the 3rd Battalion at 1430, and by 2100 the Regiment was nearing Phase Line 3.

Effective 0050, the 2nd Ranger Battalion and the 18th Field Artillery was attached to the 1st Division with the assigned mission of holding the MAYENNE LE MONTAIE Bridge

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13 August

The two divisions, 9th and 4th Infantry Divisions, not in the attack, assembled or were in the process, preparatory to following the attacking forces. The 9th Division enroute to the vicinity of JAVRON. The 4th Infantry Division after having patrolled along LA MAYENNE River south to AMBRIERS LE GRAND and conducted reconnaissance eastward to the LA VERENNE River establishing road blocks and outposts closed in assembly areas. The 8th Infantry's 3rd Battalion remained attached to the 2nd Armored Division.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: fired 11 harassing missions and 4 missions on suspected ammunition dumps.

4th Infantry Division: fired 4 interdiction and 4 close support missions, expending 292 rounds.

9th Infantry Division: no firing.

Corps: fired 1 enemy battery and 1 OP mission. Rounds expended were 28.

Tank Destroyers: not engaged.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 21

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14 AUGUST 1944

Fairly heavy fighting developed as the enemy endeavored to make his escape to the east and the VII Corps troops continued their attack to the north. Over 1500 prisoners were captured and most objectives reached.

Enemy resistance on 14 August was centered chiefly around RANES (1308) where confused forces, attempting to escape to the east through the fast closing gap, had been trapped by our armor. Elements of the 9th Panzer Reconnaissance Battalion still continued to resist tenaciously our advance on JUVIGNY. During the day the towns of LA FERTE-MACE and LA CHAPELLE MACHE were cleared of the enemy after light street fighting, and about 1600 prisoners taken by the Corps.

Of some 190 prisoners of war questioned concerning Germany's chances for still winning the war only three expressed confidence. The rest indicated that morale had reached a very low state and that only few of their officers now had hopes of still winning. During the afternoon the 1st Division reported that out of 150 PWs there were 18 Divisions represented, and indication of the enemy's conglomorate defensive organization.

During the past week (8-14 August), no prearranged flights were flown by the IX Tactical Air Command on the first five days, but armed reconnissance missions to gether with column cover supplied VII Corps armored units during the 13 and 14 August produced the following results according to Air claims:

61 tanks destroyed, 24 damaged, and 2 prabably destroyed; 1066 motor transports destroyed, 268 damaged, and 15 probably destroyed; 75 armored vehicles destroyed, and 46 damaged; 33 trucks destroyed, and 6 damaged; 10 half-tracks destroyed, and 15 damaged; 19 artillery positions and guns knocked out, 8 damaged, and 10 probably destroyed; 15 flak positions destroyed and 1 probably destroyed; 6 staff cars destroyed and 1 damaged; 8 horse drawn vehicles destroyed; 9 railroad and freight cars destroyed; and 30 other vehicles destroyed and 5 damaged in addition to the destruction of the following enemy installations: 2 oil dumps, 8 ammunition dumps, 1 infantry position, 3 crossroads, 2 roads cut, 4 railroads cut, 25 buildings, and seven attacks on troop concentrations. Air losses were placed at 24 craft with 5 German planes shot down, 5 damaged and 1 probably destroyed.

These figures did not include 106 tanks and armored vehicles destroyed on the 13th when 29 were also damaged, and claims of 56-41-3 for tanks and armored vehicles on 14th, the two biggest days for our fighters and bombers. The 13th was also our worst from the standpoint of planes lost with 11 being destroyed on that date. On the 13-14 Air claims for enemy motor transports knocked out were respectively, 587 and 348, with 153 and 82 more damaged, and 4 probably destroyed on the 13th.

3rd Armored Division (RCT 60, 9th Infantry Division attached): Forward elements of the Division were engaged throughout the day with the enemy in the vicinity of RANES (1207). More than 1200 enemy were captured and at least 10 tanks destroyed.

1st Infantry Division: On the Divisions right the 26th Infantry reached their objective and captured LA FERTE MACE (0102). On the left the 18th Regiment was in constant contact with the enemy rear guard which fought stubbornly. In this operation JUVIGNY (8998) was captured.

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9th Infantry Division (60th RCT attached to 3rd Armored Division): Moved into attack positon on the line between the 3rd Armored and 1st Infantry Divisions.

4th Infantry Division: Remained in Corps reserve.

1st Infantry Division

The 16th Infantry was ordered to move from their area of the 1st Division zone (then in the vicinity of LA BEAUMERIE with the 1st Battalion at 967875 and the 2nd Battalion 970873 and the 3rd Battalion near L'AUBRIER, 960886), to the objective in the vicinity of LA SAUVAGERE (960886) at 1500 with the mission of advancing to clear the forest in their zone of action and protect the north flank of the Division. Reconnaissance elements began to move at 1535 and by 1600 the RCT had begun movement. By 1625 the head of the 3rd Battalion was at the northeast edge of the FORET DE LA FERTE (002001) and at 1640 leading elements were approaching LA FERTE MACE and continued on toward their objective which was reached at the close of the day.

Meanwhile the 18th Infantry had renewed its attack at 0630. By 0735 lead elements of the 3rd Battalion were near BOIS PORIER (925970); the 2nd Battalion was moving east preparatory to swinging eastward. At 0845 the 2nd Battalion was northwest of ST. HELEINE on the DOMFRONT road, the former village having been cleared of enemy, and the Battalion cutting back to the main highway. The 2nd having been cleared of enemy, and the Battalion cutting back took over the mission of the 3rd Battalion at 0959 to capture Hill 235, and the 3rd Battalion continued on to its objective. LE HT. COUDRAIE was entered at 1025 and the Battalion continued moving northeast to Hill 235. The 1st Battalion attacked CHAPELLES MOCHE at 1215. At that time the leading elements of the 3rd Battalion were at 934983, swinging to the northeast. By 1827 Company C was just short of JUVIGNY (900985); the 2nd Battalion was on Hill 235, and the 3rd Battalion held Hill 131. The Regiment remained in contact with the enemy rear guard detachment who fought a stubborn withdrawl action, but at the close of the period the advance was being continued toward the objective.

Resistance to the advance of the 26th Infantry south of COUTERNE was liquidated and the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, which had crossed the river before stopping for the night of 13-14 August, renewed the attack at 0630. The 3rd Battalion after securing the river crossing became the Combat Team Reserve, and in the morning attack the 1st Battalion was on the left and the 2nd on the right as they reached the southern edge of LA FERTE MACE. All units pressed on and seized final objectives at 1520 with the 1st Battalion at LE FAY (012039).

3rd Armored Division

Task Force "X" of the 3rd Armored Division's Combat Command Hickey remained on the objective during the day in the face of heavy resistance. A strong counter-attack from the north and south was repulsed, but attempts of Combat Command Hickey to extend their position to the west were unsuccessful. Task Force "Y" attacked at 0630 to join Task Force "X" on the objective (RANES) but were delayed due to stubborn enemy resistance in the vicinity of JOUE DU BOIS, which was by-passed to the east at 1240. The 3rd Battalion of the 33rd Armored Regiment (hogan) was ordered to proceed on the eastern route to reinforce Task Force "X" and after overcoming an enemy road block at RJ 145015 reached RANES at approximately 1800 hours.

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The Division Reserve (King) also continued its attack at 0630 with the mission of seizing the objective at JOUE DE BOIS. Strong enemy resistance was encountered, and the town was by-passed to the east at 2100 to seize the high ground to the west. After occupation of the high ground to the north, enemy resistance in the town was being mopped up.

Task Force Roysdon, Combat Command Boudinot, attacked to seize objective at LA MOTTE FOUQUET. The Command jumped off at 0630, encountered moderate resistance which continued throughout the day, and reached the objective at 1700 hours. The 3rd Battalion of the attached 60th Regiment (Infantry), was attached to Task Force Roysdon. The remainder of the Regiment was placed under the command of Col Boudinot with the mission of relieving Task Force Roysdon and the Reserve on their objectives. This was being effected at the close of the period.

During the day six enemy tanks were destroyed by Task Force "Y" in the vicinity of JOUE DU BOIS. Task Force "X" and the Reserve knocked out 10 additional tanks while the Division took some 1200 prisoners.

4th and 9th Infantry Divisions

The 4th Division remained in the Corps reserve in the vicinity of coordinates 688088. Patrols were active to the south along the MAYENNE River to AMBIERES LE GRANDE. The 9th Division, less RCT 60, moved into attack position between the 1st Infantry and 3rd Armored Divisions, ready to strike north in the morning, having moved to the JOUE DU BOIS - ST. PATRICE DU DESERT area and secured the rear and flanks of the armored and infantry divisions that it was now to support.

Artillery

No Field Artillery report was published.

15 AUGUST 1944

While the right of the Corps was contained by stubborn resistance, the left of the line made another advance as the drive north continued to trap the enemy. The enemy made a determined effort to keep his escape route open to the west. During the day about 850 prisoners were captured.

Enemy units fought a rear guard action in the vicinity of RANES and VIEUX PONT (1708) on 15 August with his forces on the left attempting to delay our movement north by small groups of men and armor. Other enemy units, badly disorganized, were moving along the entire Corps front, probing our lines in a vain attempt to find a means of escapt eo the south and east.

Resistance was centered around RANES and VIEUX PONT where anti-tank defense and enemy armor delayed our advance. His defense in this sector had become more cohesive as he tried desperately to keep open his escape exit.

Armed reconnissance supplied by the IX TAC resulted in the destruction of 20 enemy tanks with 14 damaged and 15 armored vehicles knocked out in addition to 14 motor tansports destroyed and 7 damaged. Other Air claims for the day

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were the destruction of 8 buildings, 6 half-tracks, 3 gun positions, 2 jeeps, a van and AT gun each, 2 flak positions, 2 staff cars, a motorcycle, 15 trucks with 2 more damaged, and attacks of 8 troop concentrations. Our losses for the period was one plane shot down.

3rd Armored Division: Was heavily engaged with the enemy in and around RANES (1207). The fighting was severe and only a slight advance was made.

9th Infantry Division: Attacked with two regiments abreast making small gains.

1st Infantry Division: Attacked and engaged in heavy fighting throughout the day but were able to make substantial gains, advancing about 4 kilometers on the right and up to 10 on the left. The center regiment advanced slightly to the north, but consolidated the gains of the previous night and cleared the area of isolated groups of resistance.

4th Infantry Division: Remained in Corps Reserve.

3rd Armored Division

In the RANES area the 3rd Armored Division was unable to make any sustained advance. Combat Command Hickey attacked along the RANES-FROMENTEL Highway with the mission of securing the objective at PUTANGES. The attack was launched at 0730 with Task Force X leading. The 3rd Battalion of the 33rd Armored Regiment, plus 3rd Battalion of the 60th Infantry and Company B of the 703rd Tank Destroyer Battalion, remained at RANES to secure the road nets. One Company of tanks and one of infantry were sent along the RANES-SCOUCHE Highway to protect the Combat Command's right flank. Considerable opposition was encountered throughout the day from enemy artillery and tanks, and at the close of the day the Command plus the original defending forces of RANES were consolidating defensive positions in that sector. Elements of the 1st and 9th Panzer Divisions, supported by 30 tanks were identified.

Task Force 1 of Combat Command Boudinot was relieved on its previous objective (LA MOTTE FOUQUET) prior to daylight by elements of the 60th Infantry. Task Force 2 was not relieved prior to daylight and was unalbe to disengage its infantry which caused a delay in the Command's attack. Leading elements of Combat Command Boudinto crossed the LD (143028) at 1700 and at 2015 were being held up by road blocks, AT Guns, and infantry at 105064. At the close of the day Combat Command Boudinot was in leaguer prepared to continue the advance on 16 August.

The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion moved out at daylight with Companies A and D covering the right flank of Combat Command Hickey between RANES AND VIEUX PONT. Patrols were active and a road block established east of the latter twon. Contact was maintained throughout the period. Company C remained in Division Reserve and B was attached to Combat Command Boudinot at 1100.

During the day approximately 500 prisoners were taken by the Division.

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Division attacked with two regiments abreast and made nominal gains. With the 2nd Battalion on the right and the 3rd on the left the 39th

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Infantry advanced to the north without opposition until 1800 when they received light small arms fires from their front in the direction of BEAVAIN (0504) and fire from tanks on their right front. The 2nd Battalion reached Hill 213, southeast of LA LOUVERIE (0413) and the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of L'ANGELCHERIE (0213).

The 60th Infantry moved from positions in the vicinity of LA MOTTE POUQUET and JOUE DU BOIS, taken over from elements of the 3rd Armored Division, and regrouped in Division Reserve. During the afternoon and evening patrols were conducted along the roads to the north and northeast out of JOUE DU BOIS as far as CHAMP DE LA PIERRE (1204).

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division engaged in fairly heavy fighting during the day, but was able to make a sustained advance, gaining about 10 kilometers on the left and some 4 kilometers on the right. The center regiment advanced slightly to the north, consolidating ground gained the previous night when clearing out isolated groups of enemy.

The 18th Infantry passed the 16th Infantry and drove north, cleaning up. Contact was maintained with enemy rear guard detachments who fought a stubborn withdrawal. JUVIGNY was captured and at 1930 the forward battalions were in a fire fight on their objectives, the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of LE LUS DES VALLEES, east of BANGOLES DE L'ORNE (9599), and the 3rd Battalion between the FORET D'ANDAINE and the FORET DE LA FERTE, south of the town of ST. MICHEL LES ANDAINES (9600).

Having secured their previous objectives the 26th Infantry was held in position until the elements of the 9th Division arrived. The Regiment then moved over to the northwest to protect the right flank. The 1st Battalion moved to the high ground in the vicinity of 015065 (about 3.5 kilometers north of LA FERTE MACE) to form a strong point and protect the right flank. The 2nd and 1st Battalions then proceeded to clean-up their areas, and 4th Cavalry units moved for ward with patrols to sweep the woods. The town of LA FERTE MACE was captured. Cavalry patrols were active throughout the day and contact was made with the 125th Cavalry at 1241 in the vicinity of 822010, south of DOMFRONT.

Artillery

1st Division: fired 2 registrations, 13 harassing, 7 infantry, 3 strong point, 1 mortar, 7 troop and vehcile, and 12 troop and tank missions, expending 1050 rounds.

3rd Armd Division: attached 155 G S/P Bn fired 2 registration and 25 interdiction missions with an expenditure of 546 rounds. No report on organic artillery.

4th Division: no activity.

9th Division: (report includes two battalions only) fired 1 counter-battery, 2 tank, and 6 close support missions. Rounds expended were 1905.

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Corps: fired 43 interdiction missions expending 630 rounds.

Anti-aircraft: report destroyed. Activity over the whole First Army area was very light for the period with only one enemy raid reported.

Tank Destroyer: Co A, 634th TD Bn fired 7 rounds of HE direct fire destroying an enemy OP and vehicle. The 703rd TD Bn fired 15 rounds HE direct fire and destroyed a tank.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 850.

16 AUGUST 1944

Objectives on the left of the Corps front were taken and consolidated for defense. The units on the right were delayed by heavy fighting, but were only 4 to 5 kilometers from the objective line (Army boundary). During the day 640 enemy were taken prisoner.

3rd Armored Division (RCT 60, 9th Infantry Division attached): The armored column on the left fough its way out of RANES (1207) and advanced to FROMENTEL. On the right, where resistance was also very stiff, lesser gains were made. Over 400 enemy were captured and 15 tanks destroyed.

9th Infantry Division (RCT 60 attached to 3rd Armored Division): Opposition was light on the left and all but one objective was obtained, while on the right resistance was somewhat stiffer and the gains were only 2 to 3 kilometers.

1st Infantry Division: Seized and consolidated objectives along Army boundary, and prepared defenses to repell a possible counter-attack.

4th Infantry Division: Remained in Corps reserve.

3rd Armored Division

The main effort of the 3rd Armored Division was directed toward the left on 16 August to secure the high ground and road centers of SOUCHE- POTANGES (the towns exclusive), southwest of L'ORNE River. These were achieved, and the gains consolidated. An advance of about 10 kilometers was made by Combat Command Hickey during the day which saw the Division fight its way out of and north from RANES to FROMENTEL. It was a fight all the way, however, and late in the period they were heavily engaged in the latter town. Combat Command Boudinot also encountered stiff opposition in their drive to the northeast. One example of the resistance encountered was an enemy road block, northwest of VIEUX PONT defended by four anti-tank guns and thirty-five men, all of whom were killed rather than withdraw.

Combat Command Hickey attacked at 0620 astride the RANES- FROMENTEL Highway. Enemy tank resistance and road blocks were encountered and progress was slow. By 1250 the initial resistance was overcome, and the Command advanced rapidly toward LA NOGUERIE to the vicinity of LA MASURE-(095146). A strong enemy counter-attack at 1500 caused withdrawl for reorganization of approximately 1000 yards. At 1630 the attack was renewed, and at 2200 the head of the column

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had reached FROMENTEL where fighting in the outskirts was taking place. At the close of the period the Command was maintaining contact with the enemy in FROMENTEL, and the CP was moving forward to the vicinity of JOUE-DE-BOIS.

The attack was likewise renewed by Combat Command Boudinot with the drive jumping off on time at 0620, and advancing along the route of the RANES-ECOUCHE Highway with the latter town being passed to the west. Task Force 1 led, followed by 2. The advance was made against moderately heavy resistance, consisting of tanks, AT guns and infantry. At 1500 hours Task Force 2 was ordered to move to the east along the secondary roads to assist the advance of Combat Command Hickey, by seizing an objective, LA PIERRE HUREL-MESNIL JEAN, just below one of the southern bends of the ORNE. Task Force 2 was delayed in its advance due to resistance in the vicinity of LE HOUR DOUILLERE which was by-passed to the south and the advance continued to the northeast. At the close of the period Task Force 2 was in leaguer in the vicinity of Hill 231 (100115), Task Force 1 was in leaguer in the vicinity of LES YVETEAUX at 075-146.

"RANES" Force secured the road net at RANES until 0945 when they were ordered to move to Hill 246 (138101). Steady progress was made throughout the day against moderate enemy resistance, and the objective was secured by 1700. Company D of the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion secured VIEUX PONT and maintained contact with elements of the 2nd French Armored Division on the east flank. Company A conducted reconnaissance to the west of Company D. Patrols from D Company were active to the east and west of RANES. Company B conducted reconnaissance west of the route of advance of Combat Command Hickey toward PALAIS (090110) when it was assembled and ordered to follow the Command.

Armored units took approximately 500 prisoners during the day and some 15 enemy tanks were destroyed as the enemy continued its rear guard action in a determined effort to keep his escape route open to the east.

9th Infantry Division

Ordered to attack early in the morning, the 9th Division infantrymen were to make their main effort on the right in conjunction with the 3rd Armored Division to seize the objective line within their zone of operations. Although no contact with the enemy was reported during the night, opposition during the day was encountered from small pockets of resistance, supported by occasional tanks.

In the 39th Infantry's zone of the Division the 2nd and 3rd Battalions advanced to the north without opposition until 1900. Thereafter, scattered opposition was encountered in the form of small arms, mortar, and tank or self-propelled gun fire. At 2200 the advance was suspended for the night. The 1st Battalion, mortorized, moved by bounds behind the assault battalions. All objectives in this left zone were occupied except the farthest along the Army line.

On the right the 47th Infantry encountered more resistance and gains of 5000 to 7500 meters were achieved. The 1st Battalion moved into BEAUVAIN at 0800 without opposition and moved in a northwesterly direction toward the objective at 0605 which was reached at 1130. By 1730 the Battalion was moving by motor to a point south of FAVEROLLES (0510) from where it proceeded on foot

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to objective "D" (0613), Hill 276. The 2nd Battalion, preceeded by Armored elements moved out at 0800 from the vicinity of LA CHAUX (0804) and proceeded toward objective "B" (0708). Opposition was met just south of ANNEBECQ (0707). The column passed through the town and pushed against fairly heavy opposition to the southern edge of objective "C". The 3rd Battalion followed by motor via BEAUVAIN to the vicinity of 055088. At this point armored elements (Combat command Hickey) passed through the Battalion and led the advance. North of MANGY LE DESERT at 058109 a heavy fight developed with tanks, self-propelled guns, mortars and small arms. The enemy was driven off, and the 3rd Battalion proceeded to its position on a line southeast of the 1st Battalion.

At 0730 the 1st Battalion of the 60th Infantry jumped off on a reconnaissance to the northeast to CHAMP DE LA PIERRE, and thence northwest to BOIS DU MONT to determine enemy presence and strength. No enemy contact was made, and the Battalion moved to the objective in the vicinity of LA VANNERIE at 099051. At 1000 the 2nd Battalion moved to an assembly area in thissame locality and from there patrolling was conducted north and west. At 1800 the Regiment moved to a new assembly area just north of objective"B". A road block consiting of one company of TDs was established at ANNEBECQ, and another with a smaller force at 077058, on the road from FERTE MACE to RANES. Two artillery batteries, complete with personnel were captured.

1st Infantry Division

Enemy defensive strength which varied across the Corps front from west to east, consisted of only stragglers on the front of the 1st Division at the close of the period. An estimated 30 enemy fighter aircraft were active in this Division area about 1700 and strafed roads around BAGNOLES DE ORNE (9799).

The 16th Infantry attacked at 0700 and by 0830 the 1st Battalion had moved to the northern edge of LE MONT D'HERE at 974094, and the 2nd was on the edge of Hill 220 at 990093. Neither had met any resistance. At 0840 the Regiment reported, "everything proceeding according to plan, a little opposition about to the 10 grid line. Enemy reported moving on the road we plan to cut off". By 0912 the forward elements of Company B were southwest of LAURENCIERE at 973101 and had cut the road in that vicinity; Company C was just south of LES ROUSSIERES (967105) and engaged with armor, and the 2nd Battalion was on the objective. The 2nd Battalion was still holding the high ground, and the 3rd Battalion was enroute to a reserve position along the road through LE MONT D'HERE. Company A, shortly before 1 o'clock (1245) knocked out 11 half-tracks, 11 75mm AT guns, 1 88mm piece, a mortar and 30 machine guns at LES ROUSSIERES. A little later the 2nd Battalion passed through and reached its objective at 1325. Company G wasdispatched with Engineers to make a block at LA BLIFETIERE. The 3rd Battalion then held the mission of protecting the Regiment's right flank, and was on the road from LA MORLIERE to LE CHENET.

The 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry attacked at 0700 and had no contact with the enemy as they moved along the road north of LA FERTE MACE toward BRIOUZE. At 1230 they were nearing RJ at 012092. Meanwhile the 18th Infantry had been busy in the early morning. Company G established a road block in the vicinity of LA FERRIERE-AUX-ETANGES, at 0022. A German patrol broke through but the situation was quickly in hand. Another platoon was dispatched to the area. It then became apparent that the enemy was present in some strength. At

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0204 the Regiment reported, "four battalions of artillery did some beautiful work in the woods north of the road junction in the grid square 9608, and the area was completely cleaned out of the enemy". The 1st Battalion achieved Hill 275 (006086) at 1700, and the Regiment continued to protect the right flank of the Division.

The Division Commander requested heavy artillery fires on BELLOU EN HOULME (9513) about 1913 hours. The 32nd Field Artillery Battalion reported many troops and vehicles in this vicinity. In answer four battalions, including 155's, fired three volleys, and the roads leading into the town from four directions were taken under fire by one Battalion on each, and later fire was repeated. Harassing fire was kept on the roads all night.

During the day no prearranged missions were flown by the IX TAC, and armed reconnaissance activities were limited to a short part of the day due to unfavorable weather at the air bases, but good results were obtained. A total of 72 motor trnasports were destroyed and 48 damaged. In addition 8 armored vehicles were knocked out, 7 damaged and 3 probably destroyed along with 11 tanks, koncked out and the same number damaged. Other Air claims for the day were: 2 88's destroyed, 6 gun emplacements silenced, 4 flak positions destroyed and 2 half-tracks and 2 other vehicles.

Against this devestation of German equipment was the loss of 3 U.S. craft, knocked down by German AA.

4th Infantry Division

The 4th Division continued to remain in Corps reserve throughout the day. Late in the period the various units were alerted for movement to FORET DE MONAYE (1293).

Artillery

1st Division: fired 3 registrations, 2 enemy infantry, 1 tank, 1 enemy battery, and 33 harassing missions. Rounds expended were 956.

3rd Armored Division: fired 12 registrations, 5 AA batery, 12 counter-battery, 1 troop column, 6 strong point, and 33 interdiction missions. In addition 11 direct fire missions at tanks and AT guns were fired. At 161835 all organic and attached artillery was massed on the division headquarters of the 1st SS Pz (Adolph Hitler) Division. Total rounds expended were 5227.

9th Division: fired 5 counterbattery, 6 tank, and 52 close support missions, expending a total of 2218 rounds.

4th Division: not engaged.

Corps: fired 2 registration, 4 enemy battery, and 41 interdiction missions with an expenditure of 1800 rounds.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn expended 193 rounds HE and 5 AP, killing many enemy infantry. 635th TD Bn expended 18 rounds of AP and 2 HE. 703rd TD Bn expended 10 rounds of AP and 26 rounds of HE, destroying 2 Mk V and 4 Mk IV

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~~tanks. 899th TD Bn captured 1 Mk V tank and crew intact.~~

17 AUGUST 1944

The only heavy fighting of the day took place intthe vicinity of ROMENtel. All other final objectives were taken with little resistance. During the afternoon, contact was made between British troops driving south and VII Corps units which had previously reached the First Amry boundary. Elements of the 11th Armored Division, XXX Corps of the Second British Army, and the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry, 1st U.S. Division met in the vicinity of BRIOUZE, as the English succeedded in pushing south of the LA ROUVRE River to reach the line; BRIOUZE- CARNEILLER (9523)- TAILLEBOIS (9726)- ST. HONORINE LA CHARDONNE (9228)-BORJOU (9231).

FALAISE was also occupied on this day by elements of XII British Corps and First Canadian Army, while the Polish Armored Division was making rapid advances south and east.

G-2 estimates had placed the enemy strength at about 50,000 for the start of the operation with some 40,000 Germans on the British-Canadian front and about 5,000 opposing us, but later estimates howed that half the enemy facing the United Kingdom troops had successfully withdrawn. Prisoner of war count as complied by Corps G-2 for the period 12-17 August, inclusive, was:

U.S. VII Corps	3,493
Second British Army	3,350
First Canadian Army	2,970
U.S. XIX Corps	700
Total Prisoners taken	10,513

At the same time they estimated about 2,500 enemy troops remaining opposed to the Allied forces of the First U.S. and Second British Armies in the Western edge of the pocket. It therefore followed that the enemy must have succeeded in getting away with approximately 30,000 men. Nevertheless, the losses in his captured and destroyed equipment were very large and thousands of enemy forces still were threatened by the First Canadian and Third U.S. Armies. The RAF reported on the 18th that 3,200 vehicles had been destroyed or damaged on that day including 218 tanks.

In the immediate battle area it was impossible accurately to state what were the German reserves that had been brought in to the fight, and because of the narrowness of the FALAISE-ARGENTAN gap, reserves were readily moved from one shoulder to another as required. That some reserves had entered the picture and did exist was known with the appearence of the 9th SS Panzer Division.

The enemy had pulled out from the western end of the pocket along the First U.S. Army sector. His principal concern was to keep the southern portion of the gap open, and for this purpose he employed an infantry regiment from the 708th Division, and elements of three armored divisions (1st SS Bn and 9th

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Pz Divisions), the latter fighting heavily to the east of FROMENTEL. Furthermore, there were strong indications of preparations for a counter-attack on the morning of 17 August from west to east toward ECOUCHE.

The only real fighting on the VI[I] Corps front on 17 August was in the 3rd Armored Division zone in the vicinity of FROMENTEL where very strong resistance was encountered as he continued his delaying action. Elsewhere the enemy withdrawl caused a lessening or complete removal of opposition. All other final objectives were taken with little fighting.

The IX Tactical Air Command continued to supply armed reconnaissance and column cover and again gave enemy ground installations and troop movements a heavy pounding in which 406 motor transports and horse drawn vehicles were destroyed, 76 damaged, and 5 probably destroyed together with the following claims: tanks, 6-2-2, other vehicles, 37-2-0; half-tracks, 4-2-0; trucks, 0-12-0; armed vehicles, 20-2-0; 88 mm guns, 5-0-0; flak positions, 5-0-0, and successful attacks on 200-300 foot troops. A total of 6 planes were lost.

3rd Armored Division: The troops of Combat Command Hickey in and around FROMENTEL (0816) were heavily engaged and made no advance. Task Forces "Roysdon" and "King" started flanking movements to the left and right, respectively, to come in on the rear of the enemy forces north of FROMENTEL. At the close of the period each was about 2 kilometers from the Army boundary.

9th Infantry Division: completed occupation and consolidation of objectives. At close of the period the Division was not in contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: completed consolidation of objectives. The enemy's withdrawl and subsequent advance of the British cut of the Division from contact with the enemy.

4th Infantry Division: moved to an assembly area south of CARROUGES (1699) and remained in Corps reserve.

3rd Armored Division

Due to the heavy resistance which had been encountered in FROMENTEL, Combat Command Hickey and Task Force "Roysdon" (Combat Command Boudinot) planned a coordinated attack to secure the town. Task Force "Roysdon" moved out at 0630 to join the Hickey Command, but met heavy opposition and was unable to form a junction. At 1400 Combat Command Hickey attacked the town from the east. Very hard fighting ensued but by 1700 hours the Command had secured FROMENTEL except for scattered resistance in the western part.

Due to the confusion that resulted from friendly aircraft (P-38s) bombing Combat Command Hickey at 1700, the Germans succeeded in re-occupying the center and western sections of the town. At 1900 hours Company C of the 32nd Armored Regiment was sent to reoccupy; they were likewise bombed by friendly aircraft (P-38s), but managed to secure the eastern part. To assist the Command in capturing FROMENTEL the 2nd Battalion of the 60th Infantry and a medium tank company from the Division reserve were attached at 2030. At the close of the day's operations the enemy still held the center and western sections of the town.

Task Forces "Roysdon" and "King" of Combat Command Boudinot renewed the attack at 0630. While Task Force "Roysdon" was assigned the mission of joining

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Combat Command Hickey in the attack on FROMENTEL, "King" was ordered to secure the high ground, LA PIERRE HUREL- MESNIL JEAN. Task Force "Roysdon" met heavy resistance in attempting to cross the railway north of LES YVETEAUX and was unable to join Combat Command Hickey in time to launch a coordinated attack. The railroad was crossed at 1600 and at 2000 hours both Task Force "Roysdon" and "King" were assigned the mission of securing the high ground south of PUTANGES. This had formerly been assigned to the Division Reserve but they were not committed during the day. Task Force "Roysdon" was unable to reach this objective due to increased enemy resistance and at the close of the day were astride the highway west of FROMENTEL in the vicinity of LES AUGES.

Task Force "King" which attempted to cross the RR tracks at 110153 likewise met heavy resistance and was unable to push over until 1600. After driving across, Task Force "King" pushed north across country to seize the objective and at the end of the day were bivouacked outside MESNIL JEAN.

At 1300 Task Force "Hogan" which had occupied Hill 246 (136101) in conjunction with the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, was ordered to attack northeast to secure the road junction east of ECOUCHE. The attack progressed rapidly against light opposition and by 2000 hours the objective (RJ at 178155) had been secured.

9th Infantry Division

Occupation and consolidation of objectives was completed by the 9th Division and positions organized along the Army boundary. The 39th Infantry attacked against light opposition at 0800 which increased some in the afternoon, and reached the following positions: 1st Battalion, midway along the road between LA BOURDONNIERE and L'ANGLECHERIE, southeast of BRIOUZE (015136); 2nd Battalion, south of POINTEL (025139), and the 3rd Battalion, the vicinity of LE CHENAY.

At 0800 the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 47th Infantry also jumped off meeting little initial resistance. After crossing the railroad, opposition increased in the form of automatic weapons, tank, mortar and 20mm fire. At 2000, a tank company from the 745th Tank Battalion was attached and assisted in the advance to the final objectives. The 60th Infantry remained in reserve near ANNEBECQ where road blocks were maintained and also on the RANES-LA FERTE MACE road. At 2200 the 2nd Battalion was sent to RANES for attachement to the 3rd Armored Division.

1st Infantry Division

Withdrawal of the enemy and subsequent advance of the British cut off the 1st Division from contact with the enemy, and the 1st Division began a period of maintaining and refitting vehicles and equipment while preparing to execute any future orders. At the same time the Division continued to maintain local security of the front for which they were responsible. Extensive patrols were sent out to the front and flanks by the 16th Infantry but no contact could be established with the enemy.

The 18th Infantry consolidated their positions along the Army boundary, and a patrol from the 2nd Battalion made contact with the British at 1145 north

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of the First Army boundary to the east of the village of LA FERRIERE at 928-112. Later another patrol met advanced British elements in the vicinity of LA BLIFETIERE at 987135 at 1548 hours.

Artillery

1st Division: fired one mission of 52 rounds on a single enemy gun.

4th Division: no activity.

9th Division: fired 9 counterbattery, 7 tank, and 101 close support missions. Rounds expended were 5829.

3rd Armd Division: (report not complete) Fired 14 registration, 5 enemy battery, 1 Nebelwerfer, 2 AA battery, 4 stream crossing, 3 vehicle, 2 tank, and 25 interdiction missions, expending a total of 3,000 rounds.

Corps: fired 16 interdiction missions, expending 219 rounds.

Anti-aircraft: no activity.

Tank Destroyers: 899th TD Bn expended 32 rounds AP and 24 rounds HE. A Mk V Tank was captured and 2 PWs taken.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 250.

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SECRET

18 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps eliminated remaining pockets of resistance in the northeast portion of the Corps zone and awaited orders.

By 18 August it was apparent that the enemy had succeeded in extricating the bulk of his armored formations from the pocket formed by the ORNE River and the line running south of FALAISE, west of TRUM, west of CHAMBOIS, north of ARGENTAN-ECOUCHE. In order to do so, however,he was forced to abandon five or six infantry divisions to fight the hopeless rear guard action. Fierce counter-attacks by the enemy tohold open the shoulder and later to reopen the gap were repulsed.

Three armored divisions were caught and split while attempting to pass thru the last remaining route of escape at TRUN and CHAMBOIS. What remained of the German Seventh Army was now regrouping in the VIMOUTIERS (Q-4964) area with the armor preparing to move to the southeast to cover the withdrawl of his infantry divisions across the SEINE River.

According to First U. S. Army, G-2 estimates, enemy formations which were not engaged in the fighting inside the pocket or were among the early departures had been dispatched to the east to form a protective screen between GACE and ORMUX, and the following units were reported operating in that sector: 708th Infantry Division, 9th Pz Division, 116th Pz Division, Panzer "Lehr" Division, and the 331st Infantry Division.

The German supply situation was now desperate. It was only with the greatest effort that he succeeded in finding sufficient petrol to rescue his armor by moving it forty to fifty miles from the pocket to the east. Practically every supply dump of the Seventh German Army west of the SEINE had been overrun by the rapid eastward of the Third U. S. Army along the exterior line parallel to our own advance,and even at this time elements of General Patton's command were probing east to the Seine. Resupply for the Germans was limited to the small amount which could be ferried across the SEINE River at night or brought up along the one or two remaining roads running west from PARIS.

Throughout the period of 18 August enemy contact on the VII Corps front was limited to periodic clashes with delaying forces south of the ORNE River between PUTANGES and ECOUCHE. The final remnants of resistance in the 3rd Armored Division zone north of the ROMENTEL-ECOUCHE road were mopped up.

3rd Armored Division: Final remnants of resistance in the Division zone were mopped up north of the ROMENTEL (0816) - ECOUCHE (1815) Road.

9th Infantry Division: Units assembled south of the BRIOUZE (0114)-ECOUCHE (1816) Road. At close of the period the Division was not in contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Units assembled and were not in contact with the enemy.

4th Infantry Division: Remained in assembly area.

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3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Hickey continued to hold their position in the eastern section of Fromentel during the night and at first light commenced mopping up operations. Upon completion of the task at 1035, they were ordered to move into an assembly area south of the town. Combat Command Boudinot was ordered to renew its attack to secure the high ground south of PUTANGES. Task Force "Hogan" plus the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion was ordered to hold its present objective while the Division Reserve was ordered to send a tank and infantry company to mop up the area north of the FROMENTEL - ECOUCHE Highway between Task Forces "Hogan" and "King".

Both teams of Combat Command Boudinot continued the advance to the high ground south of PUTANGES. By 1230 Task Force "Roysdon" had completed the construction of road blocks west of PUTANGES at 090208. At the same time contact was made with the British forces and Combat Command Boudinot was relieved of the responsibility of the defense of the east-west PUTANGES Highway. The road blocks were maintained by the Command throughout the period.

Task Force "King" of Combat Command Boudinot advanced against moderate enemy resistance, reaching its objective at 1230. The force from the Division Reserve reached Task Force "Hogan" at 0755 and proceeded to mop up the area north of the FROMENTEL - ECOUCHE Highway to the river between Task Forces "King" and "Hogan". Moderately heavy resistance, consisting of several tanks, AT guns, small arms and light artillery was encountered in the area TREZE SAINTS-BATILLY, and in order to complete the mopping up an additional company of light tanks, a company of infantry and a medium tank platoon were ordered forward at 1800. At the close of the period these forces were in leaguer and blocking the roads north and east of TREZE SAINTS throughout the night in preparation to continuing the operation on 19 August.

The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion held positions with Task Force "Hogan" until 1030, at which time they were ordered to move from RJ 178155 to the present assembly area. Company D preceded of the Battalion by three hours to remove any resistance, remaining in ST. QUEN SUR MARIS - ST. BRICE; no enemy was encountered and the move was without incident.

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Division was not in contact with the enemy. The 39th Infantry of the 9th Division sent patrols to ST. HILAIRE (0415) during the night, but the Germans had left. A reconnaissance platoon was sent to BRIOUZE and contact made with the British at 0948 hours. At 1235 the Regiment was ordered to assemble its troops, while covering the front with patrols and maintaining road blocks. The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 47th Infantry consolidated previous positions, and the 3rd Battalion moved northeast to its final objective. No enemy were contacted and at 1350 the Battalion was ordered to assemble south of the main road. The 1st Battalion of the 60th Infantry remained in reserve near ANNEBECQ. At 2145 they sent a motorized patrol of company strength to clean out 50 Germans reported in the woods by a French civilian. Patrols were outposted in the area in preparation for cleaning out the woods in the morning. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions remained attached to the 3rd Armored Division.

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4th and 1st Infantry Divisions

1st Division units were not in contact with the enemy. Units assembled, engaged in maintaining vehicles and equipment. The 4th Division also continued in assembly areas; the 8th Infantryin the vicinity of CARROUGES, the 22nd at L'OISONNIERE, and the 12th near LES VILLETTES.

About 150 prisoners, mostly stragglers were rounded up by the VII Corps troops during the day, which again saw the IX TAC pound enemy vehicles. A total of 1387 German motor transports were attacked with 612 reported destroyed, 105 damaged and 15 probably destroyed. Other Air claims were 33 out of 68 armored vehicles attacked, being destroyed, 21 damaged and 5 probably destroyed; 6 Of 9 guns KO'd in addition to 200-300 troops, three Gestapo Headquarters, many horse drawn vehicles and fire bombs dropped on the Isle of GORLID JERODIN with excellent results.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: no activity.

4th Infantry Division: no activity.

9th Infantry Division: fired 7 counterbattery, 1 tank and 59 close support missions, expending 707 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: fired 3 counterbattery (Nebelwerfer), 2 flak, 1 vehicle, 1 machine gun and 4 registration missions. Rounds expended were 900.

Antiaircraft: no action for the period ending 180600.

Tank Destroyer: 703rd TD Bn destroyed 2 Mk V tanks, 4 Mk IV tanks, 4 88mm S/Pguns, 2 half-tracks and 1 vehicle GP.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 150.

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29 August 1944

At the close of the days the troops of the VII Corps were not in contact with the enemy. The various units were rehabilitating, refurbishing, and resting in readiness for future orders.

3rd Armored Division: Mopping up in the area of TRIEZE-SAINTS (1416)-BATILLY (1316) was completed by the Division Reserve. Other units were in assembly areas.

1st Infantry Division: Units in assembly area. Had no contact with the enemy.

4th Infantry Division: Remained in assembly area.

9th Infantry Division: Units in assembly areas. Had no contact with the enemy.

4th Cavalry Group: Moved to the vicinity of LA LOUPE (R-0408) at 190400B on a First Army mission.

3rd Armored Division

Stragglers continued to be picked up within the Corps area on 19 August. Task Force "Hutchinson", finished mopping up operations in the vicinity of TRIEZE SAINTS- BATILLY at 1030 hours and moved to the vicinity of 105145. Combat Command Boudinot moved from vicinity of LA FRESNAY to a new assembly area at 095115. All units were refitted while undergoing maintaince. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 60th Infantry reverted to Regimental control and returned to the 9th Division.

Elements which had been north of the FROMENTEL-ECHUCHE Road were all withdrawn south thereof. The Division front was outposted, and the artillery prepared to fire against any enemy counter-attack from the north or northeast. 9th Division artillery was likewise prepared to assist the 3rd Armored in the advent of a German attack.

Other Units

Neither the 1st or 9th Infantry Divisions were in contact with the enemy during the period and like the 4th Division, which was in reserve, remained in assembly areas.

The 9th Reconnaissance Troop moved to the vicinity of MONTAGNE (Q7016) where it was attached to the 4th Cavalry Group. The 9th Division was alerted for movement to MONTAGNE on 21 August. Other Corps units were awaiting orders to move east. The 4th Cavalry was attached to the XIX Corps effective 190400B and began movement to the vicinity of LA LOUPE.

Prisoners of war captured by the 3rd Armored Division were stragglers who had been living in holes inthe ground in the forests since separating from their units. A total of only 23 were taken by the Corps during the 24-hour period.

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Artillery

There was no firing during the period by any division artillery.

Corps artillery fired 1 enemy battery, 2 rocket gun, 5 missions on enemy assembly areas in support of the British attack, expending 289 rounds.

Anti-aircraft: no report.

Tank Destroyers: no report.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 80 (G-2 estimate).

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20 AUGUST 1944

VII Corps units remained in assembly areas awaiting orders for the movement to the east.

While some troops of the First U.S.Army, including all VII Corps units were virtually out of contact with the enemy after 18 August, and only a handful of stragglers remained to be bagged in the western end of the trap, French and Polish units and the First Canadian, Second British and Third American Armies continued to inflict heavy casualties on the Germans still retreating toward and across the Seine, and large numbers of prisoners were taken.

G-2 and G-3 estimates as of 20 August placed the total number of captives taken by all Allied troops in the operation at about 25,000. The American V Corps on this date took over 7,000 prisoners while British and Canadian units which had been taking increasing numbers daily each took over 2,000.

Meanwhile ARGENTAN was captured by the 80th Division and CHAMBOIS was cleared of the enemy. The V Corps estimated more than 100 tanks destroyed by their units during the day in addition to some 2,000 other vehicles of various types knocked out. Just how many troops remained of the enemy in the pocket were not known at this time.

While it was known that he had succeeded in getting out the bulk of his forces, nevertheless enemy losses were considerable, and the personnel and equipment lost not replacable in the rapidly deteriorating German war machine. G-2 estimates placed all German forces west of the Seine at this time at approximately 60,000 troops, and admitted that he had probably succeeded in getting some 35,000 across the river to the east, making a total maximum enemy strength on the Allied front, generally west of the river at slightly less than 100,000.

Of this total some 11,700 were able to oppose the First U.S. Army and about 3,800 were estimated opposing the U.S. XV Corps west of the Seine. Those troops known to be confronting the First Army were 17 GAF Division (elements) at about 3,000 strength; the 6th Parachute Division with some 5,000 troops; elements of the 344th Infantry Division, estimated at 3,000, and the remnants of the 352nd Infantry Division placed at not more than 700.

Little activity developed on the VIIICorps front during the period. All VIII Corps divisions, now out of contact with the enemy, remained in assembly areas, regrouping and preparing for the next move of the campaign that was soon to open to the east. The 4th Cavalry Group, 759th Tank Battalion and 9th Recn Tr attached, screened the line: SEES to VERNEUIL (4328-9937), both towns excluded. Before rain closed down on the area late in the day the IX Tactical Air Command hit enemy shipping on the Seine River, knocking out ponton bridges, barges, ferry boats, and river tugs.

1st Infantry Division: Was not in contact with the enemy and remained in assembly areas awaiting orders.

4th Infantry Division: Was not in contact with the enemy and remained in assembly areas awaiting orders.

9th Infantry Division: Was not in contact with the enemy and remained in assembly areas. The Division was alerted for movement to the vicinity of MONTAGNE (4-7016) on 21 August.

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3d Armored Division: Was not in contact with the enemy and remained in assembly areas awaiting orders.

Artillery

There was no artillery activity of any kind throughout the period.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 82.

21 AUGUST

The VII Corps was moving east to areas in the vicinity of CHATEAUNEUF EN THYMERAIS (R-2118)--COURVILLE SUR EURE (R-2003).

On 21 August VII Corps troops were again not in contact with the enemy. The 9th Division started to move east to protect the First U.S. Army flank between SEES (Q-4328) and VERNEUIL (Q-9937), and all but 8 infantry battalions completed the move. The 1st and 3rd Armored remained in assembly areas, as did the 4th Infantry which was preparing to move east on the following day.

The 4th Cavalry Group continued patrolling the First Army flank from VENEUIL to SEES, until relieved by elements of the 9th Infantry Division.

1st Infantry Division: Remained in assembly areas. Prepared to move east 23 August.

4th Infantry Division: Remained in assembly areas. Prepared to move east 22 August at 1600.

9th Infantry Division: Moving to the east to protect the First Army flank between SEES (Q-4328) and VERNEUIL (Q-9937).

3d Armored Division: Remained in assembly areas. Prepared to move east 22 August at 0800.

4th Cavalry Group (739th Tk Bn and 9th Rcn Tr attached): Protected First Army flank between SEES (Q-4328) and VERNEUIL (Q-9937).

Artillery

There was no artillery activity throughout the period.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 5.

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22 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps was moving east to the vicinity of CHATEAUNEUF EN THYMERAIS (R-2118)- COURVILLE SUR EURE (R-2003).

About 10 prisoners wer taken by Corps troops during the day as the last remnants of stragglers were rounded up from our extreme western section of the pocket which was still producing substantial numbers of captives to British-Canadian and V Corps units farther to the east and north.

In the British sector the advance had extended eastward and, with the end of resistance in CHAMBOIS at 1600, ran generally PONT LEVEQUE (exclusive)- LISIEUX-ORBEC-MOUTIERS-HUBERT (exclusive)- south along the TOUQUES River to HACE, and east to LAIGLE. Elements of the 4th Cavalry Group patrolled south and southwest of the latter town and through prisoners of war the 344th German Infantry Division, elements of which were believed to be operating as a screen for the main enemy defensive positions along the general line LAIGLE-VERNEUIL.

1st Infantry Division: Remained in assembly area, prepared to move east.

4th Infantry Division: Remained in assembly area and was attached to V Corps in present location as of 221800.

9th Infantry Division: Protected the First Army left flank between SEES (Q-4328) and VERNEUIL (Q-9937), and was given the additional task of securing the town of VERNEUIL from any enemy attack from the northwest.

3rd Armored Division: Enroute to the vicinity of FAVIERES (R-2013).

4th Cavalry Group: Attached to the 9th Infantry Division.

9th Infantry Division

VII Corps troops were moving eastward to the vicinity of the area of CHATEAUNEUF EN THYMERAIS (R-2118)- COURVILLE SUR EURE (R-2003) during the continued rains of 22 August. The 9th Division took over from the 4th Cavalry Group, the mission of protecting the First Army Flank and patrolled the area from VERNEUIL to SEES. In addition to protecting the Army flank between these two towns the Division was also assigned the mission of securing VERNEUIL from any attack from the northeast. A platoon of the 4th Cavalry Group occupied LAIGLE (Q-7942) at 1945.

3rd Armored Division

At 0930 the 3rd Armored Division started to move in two columns to a new assembly area in the vicinity of FAVIERES (R-2013) and were enroute most of the day. Later they were issued orders to remain in concealed bivouac until further instructions. They occupied the area CHATEAUNEUF EN THYMERAIS ST. ARNOULD DES BOIS (2049-2718-1518-1513-1012-1009).

1st and 4th Infantry Divisions

The 4th Infantry Division passed to control of the V Corps at 0800 in their present positions. The 1st Infantry Division remained in their assembly area.

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22 August

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Artillery

There was no artillery activity throughout the period.

Prisoners of War Captured by the Corps: 10.

23 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps was assembling its troops in preperation for further movement to the east.

The rains on the past two days continued in intermittant fashion on 23 August as the VII Corps command post moved eastward and opened in the vicinity of LA CHAINAY (133085) at 1400 hours. Except for the 9th Division, Corps troops were relatively inactive. The 1st Infantry remained in their assembly area at RAGNOLES DE L'ORNE, and the 3rd Armored, having completed their move to their new assembly area, remained in concealed bivouac. There was no artillery fire.

With the British advancing to the east across the front of the 9th Division, the need for this unit to maintain its defensive positions was eliminated. As the 9th Division troops were passed, they began movement to an assembly area in the vicinity of LA FERTE VIDAME (9724). At the close of the period the 39th Infantry and the 3rd Battalion of the 47th Infantry were enroute to this new location. The 4th Cavalry reverted to Corps control at 1430B and assembled in the vicinity of FONTAINE LA GUYEN (2606).

Corps troops moving eastward on 23 August were given a rousing reception by the population, which turned out enmasse to line the streets of towns and villages along the route of march as news of the somewhat premature announcement of the liberation of Paris by Headquarters of General Charles de Gaulle's National Committee of Liberation, spread like wildfire through the country.

On 23 August The IX Tactical Air Command had another "field day" with enemy forces retreating along congested roads and 379 motor transports were reported destroyed, 74 damaged, and 51 probably destroyed. A trio of oil tanks, staff cars and jeeps, each were destroyed together with adoqen tanks, 36 horse drawn vehicles, 22 personnel carriers, 19 river barges, 9 armored vehicles, 2 half-tracks, a locomotive, truck, trailer, large van and a flak tower at a cost of 7 American planes shot down.

9th Infantry Division: Assembling in the vicinity of LA FERTE VIDAME (9724).

1st Infantry Division: Remained in assembly area, preparing to move east.

3rd Armored Division: Remained in assembly area.

4th Cavalry Group: Returned to Corps control at 231430 and began movement to assembly area in the vicinity of FONTAINE LA GUYEN (2605).

Artillery

There was no artillery activity throughout the period.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 10.

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Other Allied units were encountering only light to medium resistance in the river area. The 3rd Battalion of the 22nd Infantry was receiving artillery fire northeast of CORBEIL (1213) at 1550 and several hundred enemy infantry were reported in the vicinity of CHAMPROSAY (090210) with medium artillery located at 190110 (vic MANDY). At 1600 the Cavalry reported the bridge at TILLY was a treadway span with a capacity of 33 tons. The 4th Cavalry assembled at TILLY and was prepared to follow the Combat Command Boudinot of the 3rd Armored Division across the river. Other elements of the Group were southwest of CERNY.

From the MORTAIN area the VII Corps had advanced about 250 miles east to the SEINE River area in the past two weeks, and were virtually in the suburbs of PARIS, passing the capital to the southeast and approaching the scenes of numerous World War I battlefields.

3rd Armored Division: Began crossing the SEINE River late in the afternoon after all troops had completed assemblying in the vicinity of CHEVANNES (S-0906).

9th Infantry Division: Moving from LA FERTE VIDAME (Q-9624) to vicinity of LEUDEVILLE (0110).

1st Infantry Division: Moved from the vicinity of COURVILLE SUR EURE (R-2004) to assembly areas in the vicinity of BOURAY SUR JUINE (R-9905).

3rd Armored Division

During the first part of the day 3rd Armored Division continued to move its new assembly area in the vicinity of CHEVANNES (0906) and by 1200 had closed there. At 1000 Task Force "Roysdon" (1 battalion each of tanks and infantry) of Combat Command Boudinot, was alerted to cross the SEINE River at TILLY with the mission of assisting the 22nd Infantry in securing the FORET DE SENART. The Task Force moved out at 1630, but did not get priority for crossing until 1815.

Due to the late crossing Task Force "Roysdon" moved into an assembly position without launching an attack prior to darkness. The ballance of the Division immediately followed the Task Force in moving to the east side of the SEINE Preparatory to attacking to the northeast at 261200B. Construction of a second bridge was started at 1700 by the 23rd Armored Engineers with the expectation that it would be completed in 9 hours. At the close of the period Combat Command Boudinot was moving across the TILLY bridge and was to be followed by other elements of the Division.

1st and 9th Infantry Divisions

The 1st and 9th Infantry Divisions moved into assembly areas on the side of the river and were prepared to follow the armor and calvary across the SEINE. The 1st Division was in the vicinity of BOURAY SUR JUIN (9905) with the 16th, 18th and 26th Infantry Regiments, respectively in the vicinity of BOURBIER, LA FERTE ALAIS, and L'EPIN. The 9th Division closing in the locality of LEUDEVILLE (0110) with the 60th RCT, 899th TB, the 746th Tank Battalion, and the Headquarters already at LEUDEVILLE at the close of the period. Other elements were then enroute from the vicinity of LA FERTE VIDAME.

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25 August

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Artillery

There was no artillery activity throughout the period.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: none.

26 AUGUST 1944

VII Corps' drive to the northeast gained about 35 kilometers against scattered light resistance east of the SEINE River, composed primiarly of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 128th Regiment (48th Infantry Division) in the vicinity of GRISY(S-2722) were encountered by the 4th Cavalry and 3rd Armored Division at the main CRs and avenues of approach as the enemy attempted to delay the advance of our armor to the northeast. However, with the small forces that were available to him little real resistance materialized, and he was forced to withdraw rapidly. Some 20 prisoners were taken during the day. Following the movement of the various divisions eastward, the Corps CP was moved to NAINVILLE LES ROCHES.

3rd Armored Division: Spearheaded the Corps drive and made an advance of 20 to 35 kilometers from west to east, reaching LESIGNY 9230290) and FORET DE LA LECHELLE (344218), and PEZARCHES (513263).

9th Infantry Division: Moved to an assembly area west of the SEINE River in preparation for crossing in the morning.

1st Infantry Division: Moved to assembly areas in readiness for crossing the SEINE River early in the morning.

4th Cavalry Group: Advanced steadily to the northeast in the Corps zone.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Group was ordered to complete the crossing of the SEINE River early on the 26th in coordinating with the 3rd Armored Division's attack to the northeast, and to reconnoiter within the Corps' zone of action to a line: MEAUX (4551) LA FERTE SOUS JOUARRE (6349) and maintain contact with elements of the XX Corps and V Corps on the right and left flank respectively. In a steady advance the Cavalry by 1900 had reached a general line across the Corps front that extended from coordinate 300364 in PARC DE LADMIRAULT, between the YARRES and MARNE Rivers about 6 kilometers due south of LAGNY, southeastward to 360315 (east of FORET D'ARMAINVILLERS) to 386275 (east of LES CHAPPELLE BOURBON) to 425236 in the vicinity of LES BORDES. One patrol was reported near JABLINES (353475) just below one of the bends of the MARNE.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division continued its advance in three columns about equally spaced across the Corps zone of action. During the first part of the period the crossing of the SEINE River continued by Combat Command Hickey, Combat Command Boudinot and the Reserve across the XX Corps bridge at TILLY with the XX Corps crossing the north of the town (170088). Crossings were without incident and all were completed by 1900.

Combat Command Boudinot moved in two columns, the west and center, and advanced about 20 kilometers despite having encountered anti-tank and machine gun fire along the entire route, and construction delays which held up the time

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of attack two hours. When Combat Command Boudinot moved out at 1400, an hour after the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, steady progress was maintained. By 1930 the West and Center columns had reached LESIGNY (230290) and the FORET DE LA LECHELLE (314218) and by the close of the period the Command was along the southern edge of the BOIS NOTRE DAME, just south of the road running from PARIS to TOURAN EN BRIE.

The Reserve followed in the zone of Combat Command Boudinot. After completing the SEINE crossing at 1900, the Reserve elements were still moving at 2400 and had advanced to positions along the YERRES River in the immediate vicinity of GREGY SUR YERRES. The Division Command Post moved forward to the vicinity of 185145 where it was temporarily halted by road blocks. Elements of the Reserve were ordered to reduce the blocks, but the CP by-passed and moved to QUINEY-SOUS-SENART (177213) where they were forced to halt for the night due to enemy action. The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion reconnoitered in their zone throughout the day and at the close of the period where in the FORET DE LA LECHELLE, east of PRESLES-EN-BRIE.

Meanwhile the third column of the Division, Combat Command Hickey, advanced through the eastern part of the Corps zone against moderate resistance which increased toward the close of the period. By 1930 the Command had reached the vicinity of PEZARCHES (513263), an advance of some 35 kilometers from their original LD. When the Command went into leaguer for the night, leading elements had progressed as far as CR 116, 2 kilometers west of ORMEAUX and were at coordinates 490240.

9th Infantry Division

Infantry units of the 9th Division moved up to the western banks of the SEINE River prior to making crossings early the next morning. At 1400 hours orders were issued to move by Combat Teams, and the 39th and 60th Infantry both moved to assembly areas in the vicinity of MELUN at the approximate locations of 236036 and 208025, respectively. At 2400, the 39th Infantry was closed, and the 60th Infantry was still in the process of closing. Regimental Combat Team 47 closed in their new assembly area in the vicinity of TILLY (155055) at 2300 hours. The 3rd Battalion of the 47th Infantry was attached to the 3rd Armored Division.

1st Infantry Division

The 16th Infantry commenced their movement from the LARDI camp to the vicinity of CORBEIL (085147) at 1530 as did leading elements of the 18th Infantry which crossed the IP near MONTGERAULT enroute to the vicinity of PRINGY (130070). Although attached to the 3rd Armored Division, the 3rd Battalion of the 18th Infantry still remained with the Regiment at 1945. Reconnaissance was made by elements of the 26th Infantry of a SEINE crossing at 173036, and at 1530 units started to move on foot to a vivouac location just north of CORBEIL along the west bank of the river in the vicinity of 105160.

Artillery

3rd Armd Division: supported the advance of the Division toward the MARNE River.

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Other artillery was not engaged as was the case of all artillery for the several days previous.

Anti-aircraft: there was again no enemy activity over the Corps zone.

Tank Destroyers: no activity.

Prisoners of War taken by the Corps: 20.

27 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps continued its drive 25 kilometers to the north east against rather light resistance which consisted mainly of small enemy strong points manned by elements of the 48th Infantry Division, supported by a few tanks of the 13th Pz Lehr Reconnaissance Battalion, the VII Corps progressed according to schedule. Corps troops captured 625 prisoners. Enemy strong points were located along the high ground offering concealment, and in the vicinity of crossroads and main avenues of approach. The strongest opposition was met at EVRY LES CHATEAU (S-2518), GRISY-SUISNES (S-2828), and LANGY (S-3143). During the day several attempts were made by the enemy to break out of the pocket formed by our advance and infiltrate to the southeast but none were successful.

Although the weather was not any too favorable for aerial activity, IX Tactical Air Command ighter-bombers continued in support of VII Corps troops and on three missions reported 19 motor transports, 3 staff cars, 20 horse drawn vehicles, and 1 AT gun destroyed, and 2 motor transports probably destroyed. In addition 10 FW-190's and 1 Me-109 were shot down over the Corps area and 4 FW-190's and an Me-109 probably destroyed.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to advance in the Corps area in three columns, crossing the MARNE River at LA FERTE SOUS JOUARRE (6248) and west of MEAUX (4450).

4th Cavalry Group: Engaged in mopping up pockets of resistance south of the MARNE River in the Corps zone. At times fighting was fairly heavy.

1st Infantry Division: Reached its march objective encountering no opposition.

9th Infantry Division: Advanced to its march objective without opposition although a number of prisoners were captured enroute.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division's advance continued in the Corps zone in three columns. The east column, Combat Command Hickey, crossed the MARNE River at LA FERTE SOUS JOUARRE, the center column, Task Force 1 of Combat Command Boudinot, reached MEAUX and found the bridges over both the canal and river destroyed, and the west column crossed the river west of MEAUX. Steady progress was maintained throughout the period against scattered pockets of resistance, some of which was left for the following units of the 4th Cavalry to clean up.

Combat Command Boudinot which was split into two columns during the night had the 36th Armored Infantry Regiment held up in the vicinity of BRIE COMTE ROBERT where two tanks were lost. A number of prisoners were taken in this

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locality by the unit. Civilian and Enemy SS troops were reported in the vicinity of the FORET DE ARMAINVILLIERS (315305) and the Division CP was reported unable to move from QUINEY SOUS SENART (177205) at 0430B due to enemy action.

The Combat Commands which had coiled off the road for the night resumed the advance in the early morning. At 0900 advance elements were reported passing through the PARC DE FERRIERS, north of the MARNE River, headed north toward NOIRES SUR MARNE. Some road blocks were encountered and reduced enroute. Other enemy troops acted as harassing forces to the advance. Combat Command Boudinot passed through the GRAND PARC DE CROISSY and Combat Command Hickey at the same time was east of ETG. DE CUERLANDE. As the leading elements progressed the Division CP was moved to the vicinity of PONT CARRE (310345) at 1305. At that time Combat Command Hickey was northeast of MAUPERTHUIS (565370) along the Colommiers road, and Combat Command Boudinot was then west of NUEFMOUTIERS- EN BRIE (374305).

At 1100 the left column was at SERRIS (373395). After advancing northeast of COLOMMIERS leading elements of Combat Command Hickey had no contact with the enemy. The Division Reserve was moved out from the vicinity of LEISIGNY (245268) and leading tank elements prepared to move the forward echelon to the rear between Combat Commands Hickey and Boudinot to mop-up and keep up with the Combat Commands' progress.

Combat Command Boudinot engaged several tanks at about 1300 in the vicinity of 410435 (between MONTRY and ST. GERMAIN SUR MORIN) and destroyed 5. The right column contacted friendly troops southwest of COUTEVROULT and the advance continued. Resistance was scattered and rather light. At BRIE COMTE ROBERT 5 trucks and 3 AT guns were destroyed at the south edge of town on the main road and a number of prisoners taken.

The MARNE River was crossed at 1600. Combat Command Hickey crossed at LA FERTE SOUS JOUARRES and Combat Command Boudinot north of CHAMPENTRAY. At 1735 Combat Command Boudinot had passed through MEAUX and was on the main road west of the town; Combat Command Hickey was nearing RJ 63 on the MEAUX-LA FERTE SOUS JOUARRES Road (630495). The Reserve had reached the phase line through LAGNY-PEZARCHES at 1700 and coiled off the road. An hour later the right column of Combat Command Boudinot was at ST. GERMAIN SUR MORIN and the left column north of the MARNE on the MEAUX Road (395520). Combat Command Hickey went into bivouac in the vicinity of CHATNCUST (658555) and Combat Command Boudinot, Task Force 1 in the vicinity of MEAUX and Task Force 2 at 4051, west of the town.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry early in the day took over 100 prisoners (reported at 0710) inthe locality of GRISY SUISNES when the enemy attempted to infiltrate into the town. Tanks were used as some 200 Germans tried to break out of the pocket to the southeast of GRISY SUISNES, but it was a costly and unsuccessful attempt. Another infiltration attempted in the vicinity of OZIR LA FERRIERE (280310) was not very successful, and a vehicle was destroyed by the Cavalry.

The road through the BOIS DE FERRIERES from PONTEARRES to VILLENEUVE at 335346 was the scene of enemy contact made at 1300, and small arms fire was also encountered by other elements of the Group trying to cross the clearing between

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[illegible] Another 100 German prisoners were taken in the region between GRISY SUISNES and to the northwest of FERROLLES-ATTILLY. A patrol was driven from the bridge at LAGNY about 1700 by some 300 enemy troops.

1st and 9th Infantry Divisions

While the cavalry and armored units were out in front of the Corps advance, the 1st and 9th Infantry Divisions, with the latter on the right, progressed to their day's march objectives----the line north of and generally parallel to the main road running southeast from NOGENT SUR MARNE from 2933 through the FORET D'ARMAINVILLIERS to 3727 in the 1st Division zone, and from there continuing southeastward to GRANVILLE (4417) on the 9th Division right boundary. No opposition was met.

The 1st Division units were deployed as follows: 16th Infantry north of COMBAULT (2436), 26 Infantry at LES FRICHED (280338), and the 18th Infantry on the edge of FORET D'ARMAINVILLIERS. The three regiments of the 9th Division were bivouaced with the 47th Infantry in the vicinity of BOIS VILLIERGNARD (3725), the 39th Infantry in the vicinity of BUSSY ST. GEORGES (415393), and the 60th Infantry in the vicinity of 3822.

Enroute to their assigned objective the 47th Infantry took 223 prisoners from the woods north of EVRY L S CHATEAUX (2418). The 39th Infantry picked up 6 Germans enroute without resistance.

Artillery

The 1st and 9th Infantry Division artillery occupied successive positions prepared to support the advance of their respective divisions.

3rd Armed Division Artillery continued to support the advance as it progressed northeast of the MARNE River.

Corps: Corps Artillery Headquarters was moved to a new location at 3-309288; reconnoitered and selected area in the vicinity of S-4033 for forward displacement of Corps Artillery on the morning of August 29.

Tank Destroyers: nothing reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 625.

28 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps continued driving northeast, making an advance of 45 kilometers. More than 800 of the enemy were taken prisoner during the day. Armored units spearheaded the drive with the 9th and 1st Infantry Divisions following -- in that order from right to left. The day's march objectives---the line from 405545 through MEAUX across the 1st Division zone to the FORET DU MANS (5346) and from there across the 9th Division zone southeastward to the vicinity of LA COUTURE (6433), southeast of COULOMMIERS, was reached without opposition.

From the weak rear guard action experienced by the VII Corps troops on 27 August in reaching the MARNE River, some of which was passed by our armored

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units, it appeared quite definite now that the Fifteenth German Army had the mission of a defensive sector along the SEINE From PARIS to LE HARVE and the coast from LE HARVE to the HOLLAND frontier with special reference to the flying bomb sights, and that the First German Army had been assigned the problem of trans-SEINE defenses whatever they might be. So far they were negligable. The First German Army also had the problem of the floating left flank of the Nazi forces in Northern France, and it was expected by G-2 that they would receive the armor salvaged from the Fifth Panzer Army, supplemented by whatever armored formations could be scraped up in all parts of the Reich.

Throughout the day of the 28th small pockets of resistance were encountered, usually of company strength or less, and served merely as a harassing force to our armored and cavalry advance. The bulk of the enemy continued to withdraw north and northeast, and in several instances the armored advance cut into the rear of the retreating enemy columns, knocking out considerable German vehicles.

Column cover was supplied by the IX Tactical Air Command and armed reconnaissance with German vehicles being hit hard and losses heavy. Over 150 motor transports were destroyed and between 30 and 40 damaged by our fighter-bombers. Some twenty trucks pulling trailers loaded with gasoline and one tank were also knocked out along with 14 armored vehicles destroyed and 11 more damaged. Two more tanks were damaged and 7 half-tracks, 3 mobile 40mm guns, 1 88mm gun, 2 staff cars, a motorcycle, and numerous foot troops and a gas dump blown up and large fires started. Only one U.S. plane was lost.

During the evening of 28 August the Luftwaffe made an attempt to delay our advance by knocking out SEINE River bridges in the vicinity of MELUN and between that town and CHOUPROSSY over which huge quantities of supplies and troops were moving up to the new attack zone. Some 25 to 35 enemy craft, including Dornier 217's, Junkers 88's and Messerschmidt 210's, made an unsuccessful and costly attack which resulted in the loss of 24 planes. The 16th AAA Group was attached to the 109th for the defense of this sector and 9 catagory I and II claims each were made by this unit. The 109th Gun Battalion had 1 "cat I", Battery A of the 413th Gun (90mm) Battalion had 1 "cat I" and Batteries C and D of the 634th Automatic Weapons Battalion had 3 and 4 "cat I" claims, respectively. No damage was done to the crossings by the attacking German Air Force.

Near BRAINE a German troop train headed northeast from PARIS was knocked out by the 3rd Armored Division. As elements of Combat Command Hickey's column were passing eastward through BRAINE a member of the military police on a motorcycle was notified by the station master of BRAINE that an enemy train was approaching and would be there in approximately 15 minutes.

Several vehicles were notified and no action taken. Sgt. Butler from a gun section of the 468th AAA AW (S/P) took the initiative to pull his M-15 (37mm with dual.50 mg) weapon out of the column and set it up so as to cover the railroad with its field of fire. His crew was aided by Capt. de Franco, the battery commander.

As the train approached, the crew fired on the engine, piercing the boiler and spewing great quantities of steam into the air, causing the train to stop. Then the crew immediately fired on a Mark IV on a flat car just to the rear of the coal tender. The 37mm was ineffectual toward destroying the tank, but did cause the crew of the tank to abandon their weapon and flee.

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The remainder of the train was fired on with the two machine guns of the M-15 raking it from end to end. The AA crew then dismounted and used small arms fire as they advanced in squad formation. The fire was returned by the enemy and much firing ensued on both sides. The firing subsided, and the enemy surrendered.

Approximately 70 prisoners were taken, and 30 wounded. It was necessary to leave the prisoners under guard of the FFI as the AA section had to proceed with its column.

The train was composed of 21 freight cars, containing machine shops believed to have been used by an ordnance repair battalion for tank maintaince; 9 deluxe passenger coaches with very luxurious appointments and a 3rd class passenger car; three flat cars, one of which carried the Mark IV tank, another, a cargo truck and an SS Staff car, and the third, two barrels of oil. Two baggage cars contained varied items.

The stopping of the train caused the railroad to be blocked and resulted in a second train being stopped behind the first a short while later. The 54th Armored Field Artillery Battalion knocked out the second train, assisted by Battery B of the 486th Anti-aircraft Artillery Battalion which reduced the 20mm guns carried by the train.

3rd Armored Division: Made excellent progress throughout the day, capturing the towns of SOISSONS (8096), CHATEAU THIERRY (8356), and BRAINE (9490).

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to advance in the Corps' zone, mopping up pockets of resistance, and reconnoitering roads and bridges. Captured over 400 prisoners.

1st Infantry Division: Reached the day's march objective without opposition.

9th Infantry Division: Reached the day's march objective without opposition.

3rd Armored Division

In continuing their rapid advance to the northeast throughout the day the 3rd Armored Division's two Combat Commands both employed two columns. Task Force 1 of Combat Command Boudinot along to the right and Task Force 2 to the left on the Corps' left zone and Task Forces "X" and "Y" occupied the same relative routes in Combat Command Hickey's advance.

The advance of Combat Command Hickey took them through the historic ground of BELLEAU WOODS and into CHATEAU THIERRY. They were the first American units to occupy the zone of the great World War I battlefield where our troops had fought twenty-six years before. At 1300 one column had passed by CHATEAU THIERRY and the other was then passingthrough BELLEAU WOODS. General Collins instructed them that one column would return and occupy CHATEAU THIERRY and hold the bridge at that point. At 1400 this was accomplished with the 32 AR Reconnaissance, and 1st Battalion of the 36th Armored Infantry, less two companies, and elements of the 703rd TD Battalion and Company F of the 32nd Armored Regiment.

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Combat Command Hickey was given the additional mission of moving to the east through FISMES, and thence to its objective (PONT ARCY). Minus Task Force "Y", Combat Command Hickey was at 968170 and later passed through COUPRU. Later at 2100 elements were southeast of BRAINE (950905) with the other column then southwest of VAXUALLION. At 2030 hours Combat Command Hickey had reached a point just short of PONT ARCY, between there and FISMES.

The advance of Combat Command Boudinot took them through TRIPORT (5050) at 1120 hours, and a little later CUVERCMON (5475) was reache, followed by MARCUIL SUR CUREQ. The 1st and 9th Infantry Divisions following in the advance of the Armored Division were reported at that time to be along the MARNE and along ROXAY EN BRIE, respectively. At 2000 Task Force 1 was located in the vicinity of 789950 (FRESNES), nearing the objective with Task Force 2 in SOISSONS, and a half hour later both columns had reached their objective.

During the move forward the CP was cut off at 5279 by enemy tanks just prior to dark and forced to go into a tight leaguer for the night. A skirmish with German infantry in unarmored cars resulted in the destruction of four vehicles in addition to a few enemy killed and captured.

1st Infantry Division

The advance of the 1st Infantry Division was without opposition. The 16th Infantry was held up at phase line 2 because the bridge at 381449 was out, but when the unit was given priority over the crossing at ESBLY one company moved over to their final objective in a few minutes. At 1330 the 1st Battalion was ordered to clean out enemy reported moving east from CLAYE SOUILLY to protect the left of the Division along the line CHARNY-FRESNES SUR MARNE. The 18th Infantry resumed the advance at 0808, reached objectives without opposition and consolidated, prepared to continue the advance in the morning. The 26th Infantry marched on MEAUX at 0800 with the 1st Battalion leading followed by the 2nd and 3rd. The advance was rapid and uncontested.

9th Infantry Division

Final objectives were reached at 1800 by the 39th Infantry without opposition after resuming their march at 0830. The 60th Infantry passed through the 47th Infantry at 0900. At 0922 the 47th Infantry captured 22 prisoners. They remained in position, cleaned up the woods to their left, and moved by shuttle to final positions at 1730. The 60th Infantry marched at 0800 and reached their objective without incident. Tanks and TDs were used to carry infantrymen.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Group had another busy day, making a rapid advance through the Corps sector and reconnoitering bridges and roads in addition to mopping-up resistance and taking over 400 prisoners.

Artillery

3rd Armed Division: continued to support the advance of the Division.

1st and 9th Divisions: occupied successive positions and continued to support the advance of their divisions to the northeast.

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Anti-aircraft: shot down 24 enemy planes, captured one German troop train and assisted in the destruction of a second.

Tank Destroyers: no activity.

A provisional truck company and half-company were formed from Corps Artillery.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 625.

29 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps continued to advance to the northeast. 860 prisoners were captured. Only a scattered rear guard was left by the enemy as he continued his withdrawal to the north and northeast of SOISSONS which provided no more than a delaying action to the Corps advance. In the vicinity of VILLIERS COTTERETS (S-6282) an enemy road block, formed by a railroad car and protected by machine guns, 20mm AA guns, and AT guns was encountered. Small pockets of enemy troops in the wooded areas throughout the Corps area were mopped up during the day. Due to the weather no air support was available.

3rd Armored Division: Advanced to positions just north of the AISNE River.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to advance in the Corps zone, reconnoitering roads and bridges. At the close of the period they had approached to within 4 kilometers south of LAON (0215).

1st Infantry Division: Advanced to the day's march objective, meeting no opposition.

9th Infantry Division: Advanced to the day's march objective, meeting no opposition.

3rd Armored Division

During the night of 28-29 August the 3rd Armored Division CP was prevented from closing in its selected location because of enemy action, and orders were issued by radio in response to General Collins instructions to the Division to continue the attack to the north east. Due to poor atmospheric conditions and poor reception, the orders were not cleard to the respective units in time for the attack to start as scheduled; consolidation and securing of objectives had not been completed and additional time was required. Combat Command Boudinot was further delayed by destroyed bridges and minefields.

In order to allow sufficient time for the consolidation and the securing of objectives, orders were issued at 1200 which cancelled the new objectives. During the first half of the period Combat Command Hickey consolidated and strengthened defenses within its zone of action, and Combat Command Boudinot secured a bridgehead across the AISNE River at PONT ARCY and improved the defenses on its objective. The Division Reserve continued to advance within its zone to the northeast. Task Force "Y" of the Reserve was relieved from attachment to Combat Command Hickey at 1226 and joined the remainder of the Reserve in the advance. The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion continued to reconnoiter within the Division zone with special regard to bridge sites across the AISNE River.

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During the day the Division CP wasdelayed in moving to its location in the vicinity of SOISSONS by an enemy defended road block and small arms fire west of VILLIERS COTTERETS. After an engagement with Headquarters' tanks defending infantry, the CP moved to its present location. Approximately 75 prisoners were taken.

At 1200 hours a battalion of the 18th Infantry (1st Division) was attached to the 3rd Armored Division at VILLIERS COTTERETS to reinforce SOISSONS. Another battalion of the 18th Infantry was also attached for the purpose of securing VILLIERS COTTERETS. At 1600 orders were issued to both Combat Commands and the Reserve to advance and secure the high ground along the line S-760980- N-830031 N-965063- O-100015- T-165973. The advance was successfully made and by the close of the period units occupied positions securing the high ground north of the AISNE River.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division advanced rapidly to their day's march objective without the line ST. GENGOULPH (7067)- ST. QUENTIN (6570)- AUTHEUIL (5974) opposition. Orders were received by the 26th Infantry Regiment to continue the attack to the northeast with the march objective in the vicinity of THURY and VILLENEUVRE. The attack was launched at 0800 in a column of battalionswith the 2nd in the lead followed by the 3rd and 1st in that order. At 0920 additional orders were received to advance one battalion to the high ground in the vicinity of VILLIERS COTTERETS to secure all roads into the town so that the 18th Infantry could go SOISSONS.

9th Infantry Division

In the 9th Division zone a rapid advance was made in the wake of the armor with no emeny opposing the infantrymen as they reached their march objective of CHATEAU THIERRY - LICY CLIGNON - ST. GENGOULPH. The 39th Infantry moved by motor and closed at 1525 on their objective. The 47th RCT remained in Division Reserve and at 1032 moved behind the 60th Infantry which moved by motor, beginning at 0800 and closing on the new objective at 1145. Artillery with attachments supported the advance with the normal CT attachments, and again no missions were fired.

4th Cavalry Group

Reconnaissance was again supplied by the 4th Cavalry Group which continued to advance in the Corps' zone and reconnoitered roads and bridges. Patrols reached a point 4 kilometers south of Laon by the close of the period.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: occupied successive positions, prepared to support the Division advance. Fired about 100 rounds at infantry targets.

3rd Armored Division: occupied successive positions in support of the Division advance, but no firing was reported.

9th Infantry Division: occupied successive positions, prepared to support the division advance.

Corps: nos firing reported.

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Antiaircraft: as of 0600 the 109th AAA Gp reported 1 plane shot down by the 109th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn, 1 by the 413th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn, and 7 by the 534th AAA AW Bn. The 474th AAA Bn (SP) in a ground action near its Battalion Command Post at MONTCERT, killed 1, wounded 2 and captured 80 Germans, including 4 officers. A total of 23 other prisoners were taken on this date by the 109th and 413th AAA Gun Battalions.

Tank Destroyers; no activity.

Prisoners of War Captured by the Corps: 860.

30 AUGUST 1944

The VII Corps continued the advance to the northeast. 860 Prisoners were taken. Enemy rear guard action continued with our advanced units of the 4th Cavalry Group meeting small arms fire south of ROZOY (0-4030) and artillery and mortar fire south of MONTCORNET (0-3228). Patrols of the 1st Infantry Division also observed enemy activity at COEUVRES (8-6792) on 30 August. While there was no activity of enemy aircraft reported by Corps AA units, antiaircraft troops took a number of prisoners. G-2 estimates for the period were 382 captured. Of the some 110,000 PWs reported taken by the First American Army since D-day, more than half were captured by VII Corps units.

3rd Armored Division: Captured LAON (0315) and secured positions between LAON and the AISNE River.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to advance in the Corps zone, reconnoitering roads and bridges. Patrols reached PIERREMONT (2231), ROZOY-SUR-SERRE (4029), CHATEAU PORCIEN (4790).

1st Infantry Division: Advanced to the day's march objective, meeting no opposition.

9th Infantry Division: Advanced to the day's march objective, meeting no opposition.

4th Cavalry Group

The Cavalry continued their reconnaissance throughout the day and, in addition to reconnoitering roads and bridges, pushed patrols as far as LAON (0315)-PIERREMONT (2231), ROZY-SUR-SERRE (4029), CHATEAU PORCIEN (4709), SEARINCOURT (4418) and AISNE to MONTAVERT. The extent of their patrolling was limited due to the failure of gasoline trains to arrive during the night.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division in continuing their rapid advance, captured LAON and secured positions between that city and the AISNE River. All forces attacked to expand the bridgehead over the AISNE River. Combat Command Boudinot crossed the LD at 0700 with Task Force 1 and after encountering moderate resistance reached their objective in the vicinity of LAON at 1140. Task Force 2 attacked at 1000 and by 1500 had secured their objective in the vicinity of LAON, meeting only moderate resistance throughout their attack.

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Combat Command Hickey attaked at 1530 and against light resistance were able to take their day's objective by 1915. Combat Command Leone (Division Reserve) crossed the LD at 1100 and was on its assigned objective by 2000 after encountering only light resistance. The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion continued to reconnoiter within the Division zone and to the east and met with only scattered and very light opposition throughout the period. By 2000 all commands had secured their objectives for the day.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Infantry Division's march objective on 30 August remained unchanged and included the AISNE River in their advance which was reached without opposition. The 16th Infantry moved off at 0800, and at 1000 were moving out of ACY after being delayed by a Third Army supply column. The Infantry also jumped off at 0800 and by 1133 the leading elements, 2nd Battalion and artillery units, were on the objective without having any enemy contact. At 1322, the 18th Infantry reported that elements of the 3rd Armored Division were only 2000 yards from LAON, and upon the fall of the city, the 2nd Battalion would move to occupy it.

During the evening the 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry was subjected to light artillery fire. Orders were received to continue the attack to the northeast to secure the high ground south and southwest of SOISSONS. The move was made by motor and the 2nd and 3rd Battalions seized this new series of objectives with no enemy opposition.

In this historic section where much of the American participation of World War I occured in 1918 was to be found the Memorial to the 1st Division dead that were killed in the 2nd Battle of the MARNE. The location of the Memorial is 805829 on the road leading to CHATEAU THIERRY from SOISSONS.

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Division also had orders to extned their march objectives to the AISNE River on this date and were also ordered to move at least one RCT (less 1 infantry battalion) by motor to the area CERNY-EN-LAONNOIS (0601)- FORT CHARMONT (0699)- CHIVY (0800), prepared to reinforce the 3rd Armored Division on orders of the Commanding General of the VII Corps. The various units moved to their objectives without opposition. The 39th and 47th Infantry which moved off at 0800 and 0930, respectively, took 41 and 14 prisoners enroute to their new areas closing at 1700 and 1800. The 60th Infantry with its combat team attachments moved by motor with no enemy contact. The advance was supported by the Division artillery.

The 9th Reconnaissance troop patrolled between the left flank of the 60th CT and COYDE SUR AISNE (9197). One platoon maintained contact between the 60th and 47th Infantry and elements of the 3rd Armored Division to the north. Crossings over the AISNE Canal and the ANCRE DE FAYAUX and DE LA [illegible] Rivers were reconnoitered.

Artillery

1st Division: continued to support the advance of the Division to the northeast.

3rd Armed Division: continued to support the advance of the Division.

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9th Division: occupied successive positions, prepared to support the advance of the Division to the northeast.

Corps: Corps Artillery Hq Btry, 13th FA Obsn Bn, and the 183rd FA Bn moved to the vicinity of the new Corps CP north of LA FERTE SOUS JOUARRE. The new assembly area for the 142nd and 188th FA Gps was reconnoitered in the vicinity of S-8583.

Tank Destroyers: nothing was reported.

31 AUGUST 1944

The advance of the VII Corps to the east was interrupted by orders to drive to the north. This change in direction was accomplished.

No determined stand was made by the enemy along the Corps' front on 31 August. The Germans attempted to harass the VII Corps movements with small groups of infantry, employing small arms and mortar fire. A bridge over the VILPION River at)-088304 was destroyed as he continued to withdraw using the escape route that included BRUMETZEL (0-4436), RUMIGNY (0-5016, and AUBILLERS 0-5746).

With the close of August the VII Corps had come about 500 miles in the 5 weeks since the Normandy break-through on 25 July. Over 1000 prisoners were taken during the month to swell the Corps total of captured Germans to approximately 60,000 for the 87 days of operations in western Europe since the initial landings on D-day. In addition, terrific casualties had been inflicted upon the enemy in the loss of material and equipment, and heavy losses had also been imposed in killed and wounded. The Germans were in head-long retreat which at times had more the semblence of a rout rather than an orderly withdrawal, and on days when the weather permitted air activity, the IX TAC was giving the withdrawing columns a ruthless pounding. Corps AA during the month boosted its total of enemy planes destroyed to 97. As August came to an end our advance was nearing the Belgium border, and it appeared now that the enemy was headed for the refuge of his West Wall.

3rd Armored Division: Was given a change of mission which altered its direction of advance to the north. Combat Commands Hickey, Boudinot and Leone (Division Reserve) were respectively in assembly areas in the vicinity of 2045, VERVINS (2443), and ROZOY (3930).

1st Infantry Division: Protected the Corps left flank, northeast of the advanced elements of the V Corps.

9th Infantry Division: Initiated advance north, driving toward HIRSON (3752) and VERVINS (2443).

4th Cavalry Group: Reconnoitered north to and along LA SERRE River between ROZOY - SUR - SERRE (4029) and MARLY-ST-REMAIN (0144).

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division advanced Combat Command Hickey to RETHEL (6607) and Combat Command Boudinot to NOVION-PORCIEN (3228) during the afternoon and then changed direction from east to north on orders and attacked in the new direct-

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ion. Combat Command Boudinot was at VERVINS (2444), Combat Command Hickey at coordinates 3841 in the vicinity of VERVINS and Combat Command Leone in the vicinity of ROZOY-SUR-SERRE (4030). Meanwhile the 4th Cavalry screened to the north to MARLE ET BEHAINE and LILLY and along LA SERRE River between ROZOY-SUR-SERRE and MARLE ET BEHAINE.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division protected the left flank of the Corps from SOISSONS to LAON northeast of advance elements of V Corps. Rearmost elements of the 1st Division were advanced simultaneously with the progress of V Corps. At the close of the period the Regiments were deployed as follows: 26th Infantry between SOISSONS and (9004) with the 2nd Battalion between LE VIUE and PASLY across the AISNE River north of SOISSONS (780992), 1st Battalion, along the main raod from SOISSONS to COUCY-LE-CHATAUFFRIQUE (826043), and the 3rd Battalion, north of LAFFAUX (874040). Teh 16th Infantry which earlier was in the vicinity of CHEVREGNY moved west to its objective and had the 2nd Battalion at MONTRAVIN (9511), the 1st Battalion in the vicinity of COURCELLES (9909), and the 3rd Battalion further east at the coordinates 015095. The 18th Infantry held positions in and around LAON with the 1st Battalion near VAUX on the outskirts of the city at 050157; the 2nd Battalion in the BOIS DE BRAYE (033150), and the 3rd Battalion north of NOTRE DAME DE LIESSE (160198). At 1355 the Regiment had closed in the vicinity of LAON ant at 1335 orders had been received to send a unit to NOTRE DAME DE LIESSE. Reconnaissance was pushed to MARLE ET BEHAINE and CROCY SUR SERRE where contact was made with friendly troops.

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Infantry of the 9th Division moved out at 0630 with the 1st Battalion motorized column and the 2nd Battalion using organic transportation as the Division initiated the advance north with a general advance along the line RUMIGNY (4426)- REMAUCOURT (4717). At 1010 the 1st Battalion had reached its objective as assigned and was south of VAILEE DES CLOCHERS, near LA RADOIS at 432219. The 3rd Battalion shuttled to an intermediate location, clearing roads for the armor, and then moved to objective by motor after the return of the trucks from carrying the 1st Battalion. At the close of the period the 3rd Battalion was just west of BOIS DE SERAINCOURT (4520), and the 2nd Battalion at 462209, east of LOGNY-LES-CHAUMONT.

While awaiting orders, the 47th Infantry remained in position. After getting road clearance at 1200, the Regiment moved out by motor to an assembly area in the vicinity of DIZY-LE-GROS (3421). The 60th RCT shuttled at 0630 with the 2nd Battalion as the advance guard. At 1110 a defended road block was encountered near ROZOY (4029). The column deployed, and in the subsequent action against small arms and mortar fire the reisistance around ROZOY was reduced. The CT took up defensive positions around the perimeter of the town. The 1st Battalion was in ROZOY-SUR-SERRE with the 2nd Battalion to the south and the 3rd Battalion to the southwest edge.

Artillery

1st Division: occupied successive positions prepared to support the Division. Fired approximately 100 rounds at infantry targets.

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3rd Armed Division: occupied successive positions prepared to support the advance of the dividion. No firing was reported.

4th Division: no report.

Corps: 980th FA Bn was attached to the 1st Infantry Division at 311200 and moved into firing position south of IAON (0-0315). 142nd FA Group with the 981st FA Bn (less Btry A) attached, and 188th FA Group with the 18th and 172nd FA Battalions attached, moved to assembly areas in the vicinity of coordinates G-8583. New assembly areas for Corps Artillery were reconnoitered in the vicinity of coordinates O-1501. Movement to the New area was to commence on 1 Sept. at1100.

Antiaircraft: no enemy activity was reported for the 24 hour period ending 0600.

Tank Destroyers: no activity reported.

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HEADQUARTERS, VII CORPS
A. P. O. 307, U.S. Army

1 September 1944

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

ASSIGNMENT	NAME	RANK	ASN	BRANCH	COMPONENT
COMMANDING GENERAL	J LAWTON COLLINS	Maj Gen	05247	USA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	HERMAN W W LANGE	Maj	023402	FA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	JOHN J WALSH	Capt	0391208	FA	RES
CORPS ARTY COMMANDER	WILLISTON B PALMER	Brig Gen	012246	USA	RA
Executive Off	LEMUEL MATHESON	Col	014980	FA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	WILLIAM W MAXEY	2d Lt	01175792	FA	AUS
CHIEF OF STAFF	RICHARD G McKEE	Col	011217	GSC	RA
Deputy Chief of Staff	HOWARD S SEARLE	Col	0123165	GSC	NG
Deputy CofS Operations	RICHARD C PARTRIDGE	Col	012630	GSC	RA
Liaison Off	GIBSON S PETERSON	Maj	0363994	Cav	RES
Liaison Off	WALTER W DILLARD	Capt	0327063	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JOHN R HOLLINSHEAD	Capt	0327349	CE	RES
Liaison Off	(1)JAMES C JOHNSON	Capt	0304772	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES W GORMAN	Capt	0285768	FA	RES
Liaison Off	(1)JACOB L CONNERS	Capt	01000338	AGD	AUS
Liaison Off	JOSEPH B KILLGORE	1st Lt	0392409	FA	RES
Liaison Off	NELSON C EATON	1st Lt	0453443	FA	AUS
Liaison Off	(1)GEORGES RAGACHE	Aspirant			
Chief Clerk	WILLIAM B HADDOCK	WOJG	W2131284	USA	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-1	JOHN D HIGGINS	Col	0152349	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	EDWARD M FRIEND Jr	Lt Col	0310219	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE E POWLES	Maj	0309703	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	(1)MURRAY A CLYBURN	Maj	0347661	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE M RISER	Capt	022876?	FA	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	(1)ELBERT E LASHER	2d Lt	01011104	Inf	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-2	LESLIE D CARTER	Col	010663	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2	(Air O)WILLIAM C JESSE	Maj	0302992	Cav	NG
Asst A C of S G-2	KENNETH L HOUSTON	Maj	0326319	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	CARL J WILSON	Capt	0383386	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	HERBERT E CLARK	1st Lt	01293912	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	IGNACE L EFFRUSSI	2d Lt	0574526	AC	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	CHARLES J BRUCKER	2d Lt	01002589	AGD	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	PRESTON W MARKWARD	WOJG	W2131280	USA	AUS
	IPW TEAM #16				
	(1)PETER J LEPT	2d Lt	01032594	Cav	AUS
	(1)MAX SCHLOSSBERG	2d Lt	01162701	FA	AUS
	IPW TEAM #31				
	(1)WALTER GUNTHER Jr	1st Lt	01045763	CAC	AUS
	(1)OSCAR RECHTSCHAFFEN	2d Lt	01323738	Inf	AUS
	IPW TEAM #44				
	(1)ADAM J EISENBAUER	1st Lt	0393829	CAC	RES

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Directory of Officers, Hq VII Corps,
1 Sep 1944 continued.

	OP UNIT #6				
	(1)ALEXANDER BLAZEVICIUS	2d Lt	01296983	Inf	AUS
	PI TEAM #10				
	(1)LOUIS PATT	Capt	01045664	CAC	AUS
	(1)MORRIS GLASS	1st Lt	01994434	AUS	AUS
	PI TEAM #29				
	(1)THOMAS R CORREAL	1st Lt	01110429	CE	AUS
	(1)PATSY V TIRAGLIA	1st Lt	01591321	QMC	AUS
	MI TEAM #414				
	(1)CHARLES G WHITING	1st Lt	0514736	FA	RES
	(1)ALEX MOORE	2d Lt	02040963	AUS	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-3	ORLANDO C TROXEL Jr	Col	018487	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-3 (Air O)	THURSTON T PAUL Jr	Lt Col	0342849	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT J ROSA	Maj	0352011	Cav	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	BERGIN V DICKEY	Maj	0360244	Inf	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	JOHN V STARK	Maj	0380508	CAC	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	NED R DICKSON	Capt	0389040	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	FRANCIS P MORLEY Jr	Capt	0390599	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	(1)ROLAND G RUPPENTHAL	Capt	01309100	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-3	NICHOLAS McGUIRE	2d Lt	01049982	CAC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-4	JAMES G AYDING	Col	015677	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-4	THOMAS M PIGUEPS	Lt Col	0389172	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-4	(1)WILLIS V ROSS	Maj	0270426	CE	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	LEA C ROBERTS	Maj	0340693	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	IRA J WOLTON	Maj	0453734	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	(1)ALFRED E MERRITT	Capt	0386233	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	JACK W MERDEN	1st Lt	01290691	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	HUBERT HEATH	1st Lt	01304211	Inf	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-5	DELL R HARDIN	Col	0171321	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	FRANK M McFARLAND	Lt Col	0190171	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	STRATFORD E McKINNICK	Maj	0328055	FA	NG
ADJUTANT GENERAL	LAWTON BUTLER	Col	016921	AGD	RA
Asst AG	JACKSON C RAINES	Lt Col	0264141	AGD	RES
Asst AG	ROBERT J SMITH	Maj	0348305	AGD	NG
Asst AG	FRED O BERGMAN	Capt	01000913	AGD	AUS
Postal Off	(3)JAMES A DOLAN	1st Lt	01297855	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	EARL M WILLIAMS	CWO	W2114245	USA	AUS
Asst AG	(2)CARL A ALIBRAN	WOJG	W2109898	USA	AUS
	5th ARMY (M)				
Asst AG	HAROLD K DOWDEY	Capt	01283046	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	FRANCIS L GUILFOYLE	1st Lt	01001796	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	WILLIAM H MUSSER Jr	1st Lt	01002998	AGD	AUS

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Directory of Officers, Hq VII Corps
1 Sep 1944, continued.

INSPECTOR GENERAL	JOHN W NICHOLSON	Col	05608	IGD	RA
Asst IG	MILES W CULEMAN	Lt Col	0132387	IGD	NG
Asst IG	ROBERT L SNYDER	Maj	0303549	IGD	RES
Asst IG	LEONARD HOFFMAN	CWO	W2114256	USA	AUS
JUDGE ADVOCATE	RICHARD F WELCH	Col	0225556	JAGD	RES
QUARTERMASTER	PAUL F HARFIELD	Col	0246401	QMC	NG
Asst QM	JOHN G TAPP	Lt Col	0329067	QMC	RES
Asst QM	JOHN C HARRISON	Maj	0342679	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HERMAN R DOYLE Jr	Capt	0393313	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HARRY F HUTFLAS	1st Lt	01110576	QMC	AUS
	(1)NED L ARCENEAUX	WOJG	W2109890	USA	AUS
SURGEON	ROBERT H RAPP	Lt Col	0240710	MC	RES
Asst Surg	JAMES R FANCHER	Maj	0360582	MC	NG
Asst Surg	JOSEPH T BANKS	Maj	0496405	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	NORMAN C ROBISON	Capt	0472662	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	(1)JAMES T ASCH	Capt	0447621	MC	RES
Chief Clerk	LAWRENCE A PECCO	CWO	W2114253	USA	AUS
FINANCE OFFICER	ELMER A STROM	Col	0232150	FD	NG
Asst Fin Off	ANDREW S DONNELLY	1st Lt	02040930	FD	AUS
Asst Fin Off	(2)IRSLIE R YOCUM	CWO	W2109871	USA	AUS
CHEMICAL OFFICER	JACK A BARNES	Lt Col	0283115	CWS	RES
Asst Cml Off	HERMAN W SUTTT	Maj	0346833	CWS	RES
ENGINEER	MASON J YOUNG	Col	03788	CE	RA
Asst Engr	HENRY M BLACK	Lt Col	0259005	CE	RES
Asst Engr	GLENN H PLUMLEE	Maj	0352959	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ALBION W KNIGHT	Capt	0366716	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ROBERT M GILLESPIE	Capt	0364884	CE	RES
Asst Engr	PHILIP E SITT	Capt	01102061	CE	AUS
ORDNANCE OFFICER	ARTHUR F LUSE	Col	07537	Ord Dept	RA
Asst Ord Off	STEVE J NEWTON Jr (DS)	Maj	0371040	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	SAMUEL M COHEN	Maj	0422951	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	RICHARD A GRINNELL	Capt	0392097	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	(1)JOHN SIPPERK	Capt	0387454	Inf	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN C BELLOWS	Capt	0416205	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	WILLIAM D HALL Jr	WOJG	W2120959	USA	AUS
	(1)WILLIAM J JANKOWSKI	WOJG	W2131344	USA	AUS
SIGNAL OFFICER	JOHN A SNYDER	Col	017177	Sig C	RA
Asst Sig Off	CHARLES T WESNER	Maj	0276309	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	HUGH SMITH	Capt	0351848	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	JOHN BRADLEY	Capt	01634584	Sig C	AUS
Asst Sig Off	VICTOR G FLORENCE	CWO	W2109861	USA	AUS

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Directory of Officers, Hq VII Corps,
1 Sep 1944, continued.

CHAPLAIN	F HERBERT MOEHLMANN	Col	017986	Ch	RA
Asst Ch	PATRICK J GLEESON	Lt Col	0325091	Ch	RES
	SIDNEY M LEEKOWITZ (DS)	Capt	0471729	Ch	AUS
SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER	HENRY N HENRY	Lt Col	0246714	FA	RES
Asst Sp Sv Off	ROBERT R WILSON	Maj	0289350	Inf	NG
Asst Sp Sv Off	(1)WILLIAM C SMITH Jr	1st Lt	0375518	FA	RES
PROVOST MARSHAL	(2)JOHN D BRADLEY Jr	Maj	0341714	Cav	RES
Asst PM	ADOLPH PIONTEK	Capt	0454090	Inf	AUS
Asst PM	(1)JOHN G PRATT Jr	Capt	01051335	CAC	AUS
Asst PM	EARL W [illegible]	Capt	0354776	CMP	RES
AIR SUPPORT PARTY OFF					
FR HQ IX FI COMD	(1)SIDNEY F BRODY	Maj	0428933	AC	NG
Asst Air Support Party O	(1)GEORGE E BOURGUIGNON	Capt	0727394	AC	RES
CIC DET HQ 207					
COMMANDING OFFICER	JAMES K DORSETT Jr	Capt	0362283	Inf	RES
Executive	JOHN H HEMINWAY	1st Lt	01302652	Inf	AUS
	EDWARD C STOLLENWERCK	2d Lt	01304812	Inf	AUS
	CLAYMER SCHLUTER	2d Lt	01544090	AUS	AUS
	JOHN H REBER	2d Lt	0887407	AUS	AUS
HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT	(2)LEWIS W LEBNEY	Maj	025206	Inf	[illegible]
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY VII CORPS					
COMMANDING OFFICER	LAWRENCE L LARSEN	Capt	0352065	Inf	RES
Executive Off	FREDERICK FERGUSON	Capt	0388735	Inf	RES
Mess Off	GLENN TERRELL Jr	1st Lt	0442649	Inf	RES
Supply Off	SHERWOOD V GREGORY	1st Lt	01290594	Inf	AUS
Motor Off	NORMAN BURMAN	1st Lt	01313085	Inf	AUS
Asst Supply Off	JOHN J McGEE	1st Lt	0532462	Inf	RES
Personnel Off	JAMES L HAYES	CWO	W2116181	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES L WHITEHURST	CWO	W2109873	USA	AUS
Asst Supply Off	FREDERICK D [illegible]	WOJG	W2116182	USA	AUS
Asst Motor Off	MAX A LOGNIS	WOJG	W2109892	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES F BROWER	WOJG	W2116187	USA	AUS
MEDICAL DETACHMENT VII CORPS					
Medical Off	THEODORE S BRIGHT	Capt	0500245	MC	AUS
Dental Off	RUDOLPH J FALKIN	Capt	01689361	DC	AUS
DUTY UNANNOUNCED	(1)DAVID G McMILLAN	Lt Col	0237378	CE	RES
	ROBERT W DUKE	Lt Col	0365127	Inf	RES
	(1)JOSEPH P [illegible]	Maj	0354140	Inf	
	(1)RICHARD S [illegible]	Capt	0399284	Inf	
	(1)FRED L HADSEL	2d Lt	01799048	CMP	
	JAY MAKELA	2d Lt	01547383	MAC	
	ARTHUR J MORGANROTH	2d Lt	0546407	MAC	
	(1)RANDALL M DuBOIS	Lt		USNR	

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Director of Officer, Hq VII Corps,
1 Sep 1944 continued.

AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD SUPERVISOR — JOHN A BUTLER
AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR — CHARLES C BROADDUS

Note: (1) indicates atchd to Hq VII Corps
(2) indicates assgd to Hq Co VII Corps
(3) CO 307th AFU

Lawton Butler
LAWTON BUTLER,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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CASUALTY FIGURES OF VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY FOR PERIOD 1-31 AUGUST, 1944

Date	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT.	TOTAL
1	15	77	9	0	101
2	74	540	30	8	652
3	30	294	19	6	349
4	45	297	12	0	354
5	42	266	61	0	369
6	72	468	4	0	544
7	47	816	121	3	987
8	81	499	34	7	621
9	112	566	77	57	812
10	165	740	152	1	1058
11	85	578	114	0	777
12	103	440	170	2	715
13	5	141	48	6	200
14	13	84	4	0	101
15	23	189	4	0	216
16	20	144	2	0	166
17	19	213	2	0	234
18	30	79	0	0	109
19	4	34	0	0	38
20	0	4	0	0	4
21	1	3	0	1	5
22	0	0	0	0	0
23	0	2	0	0	2
24	0	10	0	0	10
25	0	0	0	0	0
26	3	15	0	0	18
27	8	36	0	0	44
28	7	37	0	0	44
29	22	50	2	2	76
30	7	27	0	0	34
31	0	46	0	0	46
Totals	1033	6695	865	93	8686

Figures compiled by G-1 Section.

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DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES OF VII CORPS, U.S. ARMY UNITS FOR PERIOD 1-31 AUG., 1944

Date	1 Inf	2 Armd	3 Armd	4 Inf	9 Inf	30 Inf	35 Inf	Corps' Troops	Total
1	0	30	0	61	0			10	101
2	50	79	142	112	191			70	652
3	24		31	94	148			52	349
4	45		71	65	157			16	354
5	10		31	202	94	11		21	369
6	122		0	128	253	28		13	544
7	60		16	38	139	610		124	987
8	15	7	70	32	215	254		28	621
9	8	14	100	18	214	262	137	55	812
10	40	47	87	83	237	322	199	44	1058
11	19	84	53	62	125	238	118	66	777
12	14	27	7	262	32	103	165	105	715
13	1		23	163	6			7	200
14	26		50	18	0			7	101
15	47		124	12	16			18	216
16	19		123	0	16			8	166
17	13		91	0	177			3	234
18	8		77	0	20			4	109
19	0		12	0	16			10	38
20	0		3	1	0			0	4
21	0		2	0	0			3	5
22	0		0	0	0			0	0
23	0		0	0	0			2	2
24	0		0	0	0			10	10
25	0		0	0	0			0	0
26	0		15	0	0			3	18
27	1		20		23			0	44
28	0		40		1			3	44
29	11		42		0			23	76
30	18		16		0			0	34
31	3		5		38			0	46
Totals	554	288	1261	1351	2078	1928	619	709	8686

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PRISONERS OF WAR TAKEN BY VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY DURING PERIOD 1-31 AUGUST, 1944.

Date	Number
1	230
2	10
3	293
4	404
5	244
6	253
7	348
8	297
9	271
10	210
11	115
12	110
13	21
14	1519
15	860
16	787
17	268
18	175
19	81
20	82
21	5
22	11
23	10
24	2
25	0
26	20
27	500
28	482
29	860
30	409
31	137
Total	9114

NOTE: Figures above are G-1 and include only those that passed through Division and Corps PW Cages.

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Auth: CG VII C
Init: NMI
Date: 28 Sept 44

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
APO 307, U. S. Army

Copy 2 of 6 copies

9 September 1944

SUBJECT: History of the VII Corps for the period of 1-31 August, 1944, Incl (Report after action against the enemy.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Through Commanding General, First United States Army.)

1. In compliance with letter 319.1/401 Headquarters, First United States

a.) Original Units
b.) CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

183 FA Bn (105 How)
188FA Gp Metz

36 Armd Inf Regt
45 FA Gp Metz

AUTH: Opns Memo 62, Hq VII Crops, 10 August 1944.

AUTH: Opns Memo 63, Hq VII Cprs, 11 August 1944.

Btries A & B, 413th AAA Gun BN, atchd to 3d Armd Division reverts to

The Provisional Ranger Group listed blow is attahced to VII Corps for

413th AAA Gun Bn
634th AAA AW Bn, all effective 2706 0B

(3) Losses:
Detachments:
c.) STRENGTH:
d.) STATIONS:
e.) CAMPAIGNS:
f.) BATTLES:
g.) COMMANDING OFFICERS:
4th Inf. Div: Major Gen Raymond O. Barton.
9th Inf. Div: Maj Gen Maton S. Eddy reld asmt 9th Inf Div, asgd XII

h.) LOSSES IN ACTION:
i.) FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION

LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDWIN S HARTSHORN, JR.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT JOHN P NOLAN

STAFF-SERGEANT VINCENT H CITTADINO

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WARRANT OFFICER (JG) WILLIAM B. HADDOCK

* *

j.) PHOTOGRAPHS:

For the Commanding General:

/s/ LAWTON BUTLER,
Colonel, AGD.,
Adjutant General.

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319.1 (AG/TSC) 1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY, APO 230, 12 October 1944.

TO: The Adjutant General.
(Thru: Commanding General, Twelfth Army Group, APO 655).

/s/ J. E. M.

9 Incls:

311.1 (AG-C) 2nd Ind.
Hq Twelfth Army Group, APO 655, 28 October 1944.

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.
(Thru: Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, APO 887)

/s/ TES

9 Incls: n/c.

AG 319.1 OpMIST 3rd Ind. BMC/RGB/ejh
Hq European Theater of Operations, APO 887 - 4 November 1944.

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

All inclosures listed in basic communication have been withdrawn by Historical Section, this headquarters.

For the Commanding General:

/s/ B. M. CAGLE
Captain, AGD
Assistant Adjutant General.

9 Incls: Appendices 1, 2 and 3.
Withdrawn:
Incls 1 to 9.

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
APO 307, U.S. Army

SECRET
Auth: CG VII Cor
Init: [illegible]
Date: 12 Oct 44

9 October 1944

Copy 2 of 6 copies.

SUBJECT: History of the VII Corps for the period of 1-30 September, 1944, Incl (Report after action against the enemy.)

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Through Commanding General, First United States Army).

1. In compliance with letter 319.1/401 Headquarters, First United States Army, 13 July, 1944, subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports, the following report is submitted for the period 1-30 September, 1944, Incl:

a.) ORIGINAL UNIT:

No change.

b.) CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

(1) Assigned and attached Corps troops as of 1 September, 1944:

1 TD Gp
1 Spec Serv Co
4 Cav Gp Mecz
4 Cav Ron Sq M
5 MRU Mobile
6 Armd Gp
VII Corps
VII Corps MP Pl
VII Corps Arty
9 CIC Det
10 Fin Disb Sec
13 FA Obsn Bn
14 Bomb Disp Sq
18th FA Gp Mtz
18th FA Bn 105 How
20 Bomb Disp Sq
24 Cav Ron Sq M
50 Signal Bn
50 Med Bn
58 Armd FA Bn
59 Fin Disb Sec
60 AGF Band
87 Chemical Bn Mtz
87 Armd FA Bn
109 AAA Gp
142 FA Gp
172 FA Bn 4.5 G

Classification changed to RESTRICTED 9 MAY 1946
by authority of AC of S, G-2, WDGS
by Ray M. Stroupe
RAY M. STROUPE
Capt., Inf

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185 FA Bn 155 How
188 FA Gp Btz
188 FA Bn 155 How
207 CIC Det
237 Engr C Bn
238 Engr C Bn
294 Engr C Bn
297 Engr C Bn
298 Engr C Bn
307 APU
376 AAA AW Bn M
385 QM Trk Co
438 AAA AW Bn M
474 AAA AW Bn SP
486 AAA AW Bn SP
491 Collect Co
492 Collect Co
501 Engr Co LP
503 CIC Det
506 QM Co L Pl
507 Engr Co LP
603 QM Grv R Co
612 Engr Co LE
634 TD Bn SP
649 Clearing Co
663 Engr Top Co C
690 FA Bn 105 How
692 QM Bn
703 TD Bn SP
746 Tk Bn
759 Tk Bn L
890 TD Bn SP
951 FA Bn 155 How
957 FA Bn 155 How
980 FA Bn 155 Gun
981 FA Bn 155 Gun
987 FA Bn 155 Gun
988 Engr Co Tb
991 FA Bn 155 Gun
1106 Engr C Gp
1120 Engr C Gp
2892 Engr TT Tk Co
3251 Sig Serv Co
3279 QM Serv Co
3891 QM Trk Co

1 Inf Div
1 Engr C Bn
1 Signal Co
1 QM Co
1 Pon Tr Mecz
1 Inf Div MP Pl

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1 Div Band
1 Div Arty
5 FA Bn 155 How
7 FA Bn 105 How
16 Inf Regt
18 Inf Regt
26 Inf Regt
32 FA Bn 105 How
33 FA Bn 105 How
701 Ord LM Co
1 CIC Det
103 AAA AW Bn M
745 TK Bn

3rd Armd Div
MTN Bn 3 Armd Div
SUP Bn 3 Armd Div
3 Armd Div Train
23 Armd Engr Bn
32 Armd Regt
33 Armd Regt
36 Armd Inf Regt
45 Armd Med Bn
54 Armd FA Bn
67 Armd FA Bn
83 Armd Recn Bn
143 Armd Sig Co
391 Armd FA Bn

9 Inf Div
9 Med Bn
9 Signal Co
9 QM Co
9 Recn Tr Mecz
9 Inf Div MP PL
9 Inf Div Band
9 Div Arty
15 Engr C Bn
26 FA Bn 105 How
34 FA Bn 155 How
39 Inf Regt
47 Inf Regt
60 Inf Regt
60 FA Bn 105 How
61 FA Bn 105 How
709 Ord LM Co

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(2) Attachments:

The following units are attached to VII Corps at 060600B on order First Army:

11 AAA Gp, Hq & Hq Btry.
749th AAA Gun Bn (2 Btries)
131st AAA Gun Bn

AUTH: Opns Memo 86, Hq VII Corps, 7 Sept 44.

The following units having been attached to VII Corps are further attached to 11 th AAA Gp effective 071800B:

109th AAA Bn (Gun)
131st AAA Bn (Gun)
440th AAA Bn (AW)
749th AAA Bn (Gun) (less two batteries).

AUTH: Opns Memo 87, Hq VII Corps, 8 Sept 44.

The following units are attached to VII Corps on order of First Army, are further attached to 109th AAA Gp as shown below:

557th AAA AW Bn effective 5 Sept.
413th AAA Gun Bn effective 080600B

AUTH: Opns Memo 89, Hq VII Corps, 10 Sept 44.

The following units are attached to VII Corps on order First Army effective 131200:

195th FA Bn (8" How)
266th FA Bn (240mm How)

AUTH: Opns Memo 93, Hq VII Corps, 16 Sept 44.

The follwcing units are attached to VII Corps upon arrival in the vicinity of HENRICHAPELLE station, BELGIUM (742322) on or about 20 September on order First Army:

179th FA Gp, Hq & Hq Btry
153rd FA Bn (8" G)

AUTH: Opns Memo 97, Hq VII Corps, 21 Sept 44.

(3) Detachments:

The following units are relieved from attachment to VII Corps and pass to control of First Army effective 7 Sept 44:

18th FA Bn
183rd FA Bn
690th FA Bn

AUTH: Opns Memo 87, Hq VII Corps, 8 Sept 44.

The following units are detached from VII Corps effective 130600B on order First Army and attached as indicated:

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Unit	Attached to
131st AAA Gun Bn (M)	49th AAA Brig
749th AAA Gun Bn (SM) (less Btries A & B)	XIX Corps
11th AAA Gp Hq & Hq Btry	49th AAA Brig
109th AAA Gun Bn (M)	49th AAA Brig
440th AAA AW Bn (M)	49th AAA Brig

AUTH: Opns Memo 94, Hq VII Corps, 18 Sept 44.

c.) STRENGTH:

(1) Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 1 Sept 44: 92 officers; 14 warrant officers; 322 enlistedmen.
Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 30 Sept 44: 92 officers; 14 warrant officers; 322 enlistedmen. Net gain for the period: 0
(2) VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 1 Sept 44: 70186. *
VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 30 Sept 44: 66352.*
Net gain for the period: 3534.

AUTH: Morning Reports of 5 machine Record Unit, VII Corps, U. S. Army for the above dates of Sept 44.

NOTE: *Does not include units attached for operations only.

d.) STATIONS:

CPs of Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army

02 Sept: left la Rue, France.
02 Sept: arrived Montcornet, France.
05 Sept: left la Rue, France.
05 Sept: arrived Bois de la Ville (Fosse), Belgium.
09 Sept: left Bois de la Ville (Fosse), Belgium.
09 Sept: arrived Chateau de Weigmont (Soumagne), Belgium.
15 Sept: left Chateau de Weigmont (Soumagne), Belgium.
15 Sept: arrived Kornelimunster, Germany.

AUTH: Morning Reports of Hq Co, VII Corps, U.S. Army.

e.) CAMPAIGNS:

(1) The continuation of the drive north through France, thence into Belgium, and eastward to the Belgium, Holland, German border where the Siegfried line was penetrated.
(2) To destroy the enemy on its front, clearing him from France, and Belgium, penetration of the Siegfried line, preparatory to a drive the Rhine River.
(3) Duration: 1 September to 30 September 1944 (Later phase not completed).

AUTH: Field Orders No. 10 and 11, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army.

f.) BATTLES:

See narative report, Appendix #1.

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g.) COMMANDING OFFICERS:

VII Corps Commander: Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins.
VII Corps Artillery: Brig Gen Williston B. Palmer.
1st Infantry Division: Maj Gen Clarence R. Huebner.
3rd Armored Division: Maj Gen Maurice Rose
9th Infantry Division: Maj Gen Louis A. Craig.

h.) LOSSES IN ACTION:

(1) Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army:

None

AUTH: Morning Reports, Hq Co, VII Corps, U.S. Army.

(2) VII Corps, U.S. Army:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	Total
Officers	82	357	83	3	525
Warrant Officers	3	7	2	0	12
Enlistedmen	1091	4736	1570	5	7402
Grand Total	1176	5100	1655	8	7939

AUTH: 5 machine Record Unit, Hq VII Corps as of 30 Sept 44.
(Note: Casualty figures do not include troops attached for operations only.)

i.) FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:

(1) Award of Silver Star Medal:

Under the provisions of AR 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as ammended, and circular No. 66, Headquarters First United States Army, dated 18 May 1944, the Silver Star Medal was awarded to the following:

BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLISTON B. PALMER, 012246, United States Army, Headquarters VII Corps Artillery, for gallantry in action and disregard for personal safety displayed on 19 June 1944 in France, which reflects highest credit on himself and the armed forces of the United States. Entered the United States Military Academy from the United States At large.

AUTH: GO 60, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, 20 September, 1944.

j.) PHOTOGRAPHS:

(1) See Inclosure # ~~169~~
(2) Additional photographs covering the period of this report will be submitted as received from Army Pictorial Service.)

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VII Corps

1 SEPTEMBER 1944

Armored units continued to spearhead the Corps drive of 20 kilometers northward followed by the 9th and 1st Infantry Divisions to the right and left of the Corps zone. Only light opposition was encountered to the west, but in the eastern zone resistance was stiffer, especially along the OISE River. Leading elements of the 3rd Armored reached the vicinity of BUCILLY (3814188) along the OISE.

In general, the enemy withdrew rapidly to the north and northeast across the whole First United States Army front, offering only light resistance and in some localities none at all. Heavy resistance was encountered in the FORET DE COMPIEGNE and west of the OISE, consiting of fire from artillery, tanks, and small arms. All bridges across the AISNE River west of SOISSONS and over the OISE in the V Corps sector had been destroyed except two that were still in enemy hands.

The enemy was found in position along the line LE NOUVIEN (0-1764), AUBENTON (0-4643, RUMIGNY (0-5140), LIART (0-5653) and SIGNY L'ABBAYE (0-6127) in the zone of the VII Corps. This general line had previously been reported as a defensive line, but no prepared or permanent defenses were encountered. The enemy rear guard action increased in strength on the right flank of the Corps with the enemy employing tanks, artillery and infantry to deny penetration of the line AUBENTON - RUMIGNY - LIART - SIGNY L'ABBAYE, while on the front of the 3rd Armored Division only scattered resistance was met. The only enemy contact during the night was in the 1st Division sector where 18th Infantry cleared out ERLON (1033) 12 miles northeast of LAON.

While the VII Corps was continuing its drive to the north and making good progress other First Army units were also advancing. The adjacent V Corps pushed armored elements to CREPY-EN-LAONNOIS (9240), and the XX Corps (Third Army) continued its drive east of VERDUN (U-2865). The 359th Infantry (90th Division) made contact with our cavalry at RETHEL (5606).

At approximately 0530 hours a number of "flying bombs" passed over the Corps area traveling in a general northeast to southwest direction. One fell at LONGUE RUE DU HAUT (371418), failing to explode. The bomb was three feet in diameter and nine feet in length. The location of its decent was about 10 miles north of MONTCORNET, the Corps CP.

Fighter-bombers returned to action in the Corps zone and air claims were 3 tanks, 6 armored vehicles, 81 motor transports, 5 staff cars, 2 AT guns, 16 horse-drawn vehicles and 3 jeeps destroyed, and 5 armored vehicles, 11 motor transports, 2 staff cars and 1 van damaged.

3rd Armored Division: Continued its advance to the north. In the western zone opposition was very light, while columns oper ting to the east, especially at the OISE River met stubborn resistance which delayed the advance somewhat. The advance carried to almost the line of the day's objective ----- roughly along the line LIESSIES (3974) -AVESNES (2876) - MARIOLLES (1678). At the close of the period columns were continuing northward.

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1 September

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9th Infantry Division: Continued northward, following the Armored elements, and reached all objectives, HIRSON (3752) and VERVINS (2443).

1st Infantry Division: Secured the high ground along the line NOTRE DAME DE LIESSE (1619) - LAON (1315) - COURTIL (7498) their objectives, and protected the northwest flank of the Corps.

4th Cavalry Group: Carried out their assigned mission of protecting the right flank of the Corps between RETHEL (6507) and AUBENTON (4643). Contact was made with the 90th Infantry Division of the adjacent XX Corps (Third Army) at RETHEL.

3rd Armored Division

The attack of the 3rd Armored Division was renewed toward their objective -- MONS as all combat commands advanced in multiple columns with Boudinot, Hickey, and Leone (Division Reserve), in that order from left to right. All were held up by stream crossings. Bridges were built during the night and at 0700 Combat Command Hickey jumped off on the day's attack and made steady progress throughout the period against small arms, tank, and artillery fire. By 1100 the Command had reached its intermediate objective in the vicinity of LANDOUZY (3546). West of RAINSER, Combat Command Hickey deployed to the vicinity of LA FOLIE and were headed north at the close of the period.

Combat Command Boudinot likewise made good progress when they renewed the attack at 0820. Task Force King had achieved its intermediate objective, VERVINS (2443) by 1015. At that time Task Force Wellborn was in the vicinity of 213308. The Command continued their progress and the Task Forces advanced to the vicinity of LE NOUVION DU THIERACHE and the northern edge of FORET DU NOUVION and were prepared to renew the attack early on 2 September.

Meanwhile Combat Command Leone was further delayed by sporadic mortar and artillery fire while bridge construction was underway, and in general opposition was stiffer for this easternmost column operating to the west of the OISE River. Northwest of AUBENTON (at 455438) resistance was encountered in force and at 1700 the command split into three columns with two by-passing the enemy and the other group reduced the opposition. By 2050 a bridgehead had been secured and a bridge built at 385483. At the close of the day elements were in HIRSON (385530).

9th Infantry Division

Scattered small arms, mortar and artillery fire were received throughout the entire period by the 9th Infantry Division, although opposition was chiefly from scattered groups of infantry that had been by-passed by forward elements. Roving armored cars and tanks harassed the supply column and rear installations of the Division while attempting to infiltrate to the east and north. About a dozen tanks moving southeast toward SIGNY L'ABBAYE were contained. Tanks and AT guns were also employed by the Germans on the road in the vicinity of MARTIGNY, 3½ miles south of HIRSON, and at BELLEVUE, 5 miles south of HIRSON, long range artillery was received. Nevertheless the 9th Division secured all its assigned objectives during the day.

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The 39th Infantry advanced in a column of battalions until held up by a blown bridge at MORGNY (3635). The 1st Battalion forded the stream while the balance of the Combat Team used alternate routes through CUIRY (3935) and COIGNT (3738). The 1st Battalion was delayed due to the 3rd Armored Division using the same roads and by the enemy artillery fire. The Battalion awaited passage of the armored units and then moved forward taking up positions between EPARCY and south of LA HERIE at coordinates 355485. The 2nd Battalion moved into position at L'EPINETTE (3644) and the 3rd Battalion deployed southwest of ORIGNY at coordinates 300490-320490.

The 47th Infantry advanced to the objective of VERVINS (2544). The 1st Battalion moved on foot to LA HURTAUT River at 308295 and from there proceeded by truck to the objective without any contact with the enemy, and went into position north of the twon, about half way to FONTAINE LES VERVINS (256449). The 2nd Battalion in moving by motor was delayed by a blown bridge at BRAYE (2837), but after fording the river reached the objective at 1330 hours and organized defensive positions with road blocks on approaches to the town in the vicinity of LA HAUTE BONDE (290461).

At 0800 the 60th Infantry advanced with the 1st Battalion assigned the mission of taking BRUNEHAMEL (4436) and the 3rd Battalion, AUBENTON (4643). The 1st Battalion captured their objective at 1000 against slight opposition. The 3rd Battalion advancing in two columns, was passed by elements of the 3rd Armored Division which presently contacted the enemy. The Armored withdrew, and the 3rd Battalion advanced again, meeting resistance from artillery, nebelwerfers, tanks and small arms, which was overcome by an enveloping action from the west. At 1930 the objective had been secured.

1st Infantry Division

The Division continued the advance north protecting the west flank of the Corps north of the leading elements of V Corps, encountering no opposition. Positions were secured at LAON, MARLE and at SOISSONS to screen and protect the Corps left flank.

At LAON the 2nd Battalion of the 18th Infantry was relieved by the 1st Battalion of the 16th Infantry which moved from SOISSONS at 1330 and effected the relief of the 18th Infantry unit at 1515. The remainder of the 16th Infantry remained in the vicinity of SOISSONS and was prepared to move north to the BELGIAN border when ordered. At 1547 the 16th Infantry was told that railroad lines north of the AISNE would be interrupted without destruction of important structures.

The 18th Infantry was ordered at 1102 to move against MARLE, relieve the cavalry elements there and block road nets to the west and northwest. At 1200 the 3rd Battalion reverted to Regimental control. The 1st Reconnaissance Troop reconnoitered the north route from LAON to the vicinity of coordinates 030299 to CRECY SUR SERRE. Upon arrival of the Regiment at LAON, the 2nd Battalion returned to Regimental control. Enemy was reported at CRECY. At 1409 the 1st Battalion was at coordinates 058185 and by 1415, the east column, 3rd Battalion moved out. The 1st Battalion cleaned out a small pocket of enemy near its objective and by 1540 the 1st and 3rd Battalions were on their objectives.

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At 0935 the 26th Combat Team was alerted to move and proceed to the vicinity of BOSMONT (2033) and the leading battalion passed the IP until 1400. Enemy contact was negative, but 33 stragglers were picked up during the day.

Artillery

1st Division: No missions fired.

3rd Armed Division: Fired a mission on a platoon of Nebelwerfers in the vicinity of coordinates 0-386515, another on a truck-drawn 4-gun battery as it was going out of position, and one on infantry.

9th Division: Fired one tank and six close support missions.

Anti-aircraft: No activity was reported by Corps AA.

Tank Destroyers: No report.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 524.

2 SEPTEMBER 1944

The drive of the VII Corps northward continued on 2 September and resulted in our troops crossing the border into BELGIUM to obtain the objective in the vicinity of MONS. Reconnaissance elements of the 9th Infantry Division entered BELGIUM in the vicinity of coordinates 502573 (near the village of LA FORGE PHILIPPE) at 1107. Elements of the 3rd Armored Division crossed the boundary between FRANCE and BELGIUM north of MAUBEUGE (3293) at 1500.

In an attack that carried as far as 40 kilometers in some sectors of the Corps zone, the armored elements reached the Corps objective, MONS, during the early evening, meeting only scattered small arms resistance. Rather than make a stand against our forces the enemy continued to withdraw to the north and east across the MEUSE River, and only a rear guard action was encountered by VII Corps troops. On the right flank of the Corps zone an enemy screening force was active along the line FORGE PHILIPPE (0-5257)- SIGNE LE PETIT (0-5250)- HAVYS (0-6139)- MARLEMONT (0-5833)- SIGNY L'ABBAYE (0-6127). An estimate 650 prisoners were taken during the day by VII Corps forces.

Throughout the day the enemy withdrawal was not limited to the First United States Army front, but was as equally pronounced across the whole of the Third Army sector. Captured documents indicated the withdrawl of elements remaining south of the LOIRE to the LUXEMBOURG border.

After several days of inactivity at the end of August caused by inclement weather, the IX Tactical Air Command was again out on armed reconnaissance and supplying column cover for VII Corps armored elements, but there were few targets of opportunity and the fighter-bombers had one of their poorest days in weeks in the Corps zone. Claims of the Air Force were 23 horse drawn vehicles destroyed, 3 staff cars knocked out and 1 anti-aircraft gun.

3rd Armored Division: Continued the advance to the north into BELGIUM, reaching the Corps objective at MONS (3112) during the evening. Only scattered small arms resistance was met.

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9th Infantry Div[illegible]: Continued the advance nor[illegible]nto BELGIUM, meeting and wiping out several [illegible]ots of resistance, and protect[illegible] the Corps east flank north of ANY-MARTIN-RIEUX (4748).

1st Infantry Division: Continued the advance to the north while protecting the Corps (left) west flank, north of leading elements of the V Corps, Encountered no opposition.

4th Cavalry Group: Protected the east flank of the Corps between ANY-MARTIN-RIEUX (4748) and AMAGNE (6507).

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division struck with three combat commands, each employing two columns, to make a rapid advance throughout the day to reach the objective of MONS. A somewhat generally left route in the Corps zone was used as the six columns drove northward.

Combat Command Hickey renewed its drive at 0700 and by 1500 the right column had reached MAIRIEUX, and at 1600 the left column was along the main road leading to MONS, about 13 kilometers south of the objective city. The BELGIAN border was crossed at about 1600. The left column encountered anti-tank fire at the main CR 3206, where the GIVRY-NOIRCHAIN Road crossed the main highway about 6 1/2 miles south of MONS. After this resistance was cleaned up both columns continued north and leading elements entered the city at 1900. At 2000 the Command was ordered to send elements to block and secure the railroad at 265234 and 200125 and the highway at 220130 and 345130.

Elements of the trains of Combat Command Boudinot were cut off during the night and unable to deliver fuel and lubricants which caused a delay in the attack. At 1200 the right column began movement and the left column followed at 1230. At 1600 the right column had advanced to the vicinity of BOIS DE LA LANIERE and reported they were on the tail of an enemy column. Meanwhile the left column of the Command was under fire in the vicinity of 2291 (southwest of HARGNIES, along the northeast edge of the FORET DE MORMAL.). The right column engaged an enemy cavalry column retreating northeastward at 1800 and reported effective fire delivered on the foe. BOUSSOIS (373942) was by-passed by the left column. Both columns then continued forward and the command reached its objective at 2145.

Combat Command Leone jumped off at 0700. Brief contact was made with the enemy in the vicinity of HIRSON (380539). The left column was using a route along rhe OISE River while the right at 0930 contacted enemy tanks at CR 390690 on the eastern edge of the BOIS DE LA HAIE DE FOURMIES, but the Germans succeeded in escaping. Minefileds were by-passed in the same vicinity. The left column reported enemy tanks withdrawing north ahead of their advance and several were destroyed. Combat Command Leone was temporarily held up by tank fire at 1600 with fire from both flanks as they neared phase line J, southeast of BERGNIES in the vicinity of 3580. However, at 1615 they were moving again and continued to advance against moderately heavy resistance. At 1957 orders were issued to the Command to disengage if necessary and move into the zone of Combat Command Hickey. This plan was followed and they swung west to the zone of Combat Command Hickey and continued to positions to the east of MONS. In their action during the day the Command destroyed 10 enemy tanks.

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9th Infantry Division

The 9th Infantry Division followed in back of the armored advance and also made excellent progress. Several pockets of resistance were wiped out and protection furnished for the Corps' east flank, north of NAY MARTIN RIEUX (4748). The 39th Infantry attacked at 0900 and with the 3rd Battalion in the lead contacted a column of the 3rd Armored Division north of HIRSON. The Regiment followed the armored elements and helped the 3rd Armored Division advance in the vicinity of 390600, where mines and small arms fire threatned to hold up their advance. At 1050 the town of EBARCY (360481) was cleaned out of Germans. The 39th Infantry reached its day's objectives and took up positions as follows: 2nd Battalion, east of FORET DE TRELON (4672), 1st Battalion along the southern edge of BOIS L'ABBE, and the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of the town of EPPE-SAUVAGE.

The 47th Infantry attacked in two columns at 0800 and advanced without opposition southwest of MONDREPUIS (350752) by WIGNEHIES where the 1st Battalion encountered small arms fire at 1130 hours in the vicinity of coordinates 330642. The other column was then south of PERON at 346602. The CT finally moved into positions in the vicinity of 4077, south of SOLRE-LE-CHATEAU in the opening between BOIS GRADE DE BELLEUX and BOIS DETOUVENT-BOIS DU VIEUX SART where defenses were organized.

The 60th Infantry was also attacking at 0800, attacking to the north, and at MACON (4867), contact was made with the enemy in strength, Division artillery was brought up and shelled the German columns moving east out of the town. At 1107 the 1st Battalion had crossed the BELGIAN border, this was the first engagement on BELGIAN soil. At 1345 the Combat Team was just south of MACON. They passed WICKER, and at 1535 the 1st and 2nd Battalions were on their objectives with the 3rd Battalion some 3000 yards west of its. Positions were organized for defensive action in protecting the Corps east flank with the battalions deployed as follows: 1st, south of BAIVES, east to the border (470680-485681); 2nd, along the border south of WALLERS-TRELON (446676-462675), and the 3rd at CHIMAY (5566).

1st Infantry Division

In conjunction with the 9th Division on its right, the 1st Division was to advance early on 2 September to seize the line: AVESNES (2876), CARTIGNIES (2273), PRISCHES (1671), LE SART (1370), all inclusive. The Division continued the advance in the Corps zone, protecting the west flank of the Corps ahead of the leading elements of the adjacent V Corps, and encountered light opposition in advancing some 40 kilometers. Two truck companies were employed to motorize the regiments.

The 18th Infantry began movement at 0800 with the 1st Battalion passing th IP at this time. At 1055 the 18th Infantry reported "leading 3rd held up by small enemy force at LEME. Our tanks and infantry dispatched to mop up". The Regiment then made contact with German infantry troops on the edge of LEME and attacked to dislodge the foe. At 1128 the Regiment was moving forward again, and by 1344 the lead battalion had reached RJ 160575, and at 1400 the head of the column was in contact with the 36th Armored Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Armored Division. The 1st Battalion closed on its objective, the high ground southeast of BARZY, at 1500 with the others moving to L'EPAISSENOUX.

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Leading elements of the 5th Armored Division (V Corps) were in contact with the 16th RCT at 0900 in the vicinity of coordinates 0430. By 0952 the I & R Platoon reported the 16th Infantry at 031356, and moving north. Task Force Taylor met enemy resistance at coordinates 059436 at 1050 hours. The Combat Team started to move north from URCEL at 1315 and by 1825 was on its objective with the 1st Battalion in the vicinity of SAINS RICHAUMONT, the 2nd Battalion southwest of FROISY (130510), and the 3rd Battalion along the main road running northeast to LA CHAPPELLE (1356).

The 26th Infantry moved forward, keeping equal progress with the other two regiments. When the attack was launched, the 1st Battalion was in the lead followed by the 2nd and 3rd Battalions in that order. About 3 kilometers south of AVESNES (0-285765) the 1st Battalion detrucked at 1025 and cleaned out an enemy detachment. Two companies of the 1st Battalion reached the high ground to the north of AVESNES (285787) at 1240 and the remainder of the Battalion closed in that locality at 1350. Meanwhile (1300) the 2nd and 3rd Battalions had detrucked south of the town and taken up positions at L'ACHERAYS (278715) and LE TERVIER (268633). At the close of the period all units had moved into final positions without opposition and were deployed as follows: 1st Battalion to the north of AVESNES, occupying the high ground in the vicinity of 285785, the 2nd Battalion was to the east of AVESNES, about half way to FLAUMONT-WAUDRECHIES at 305773, and the 3rd Battalion was just east of AVESNELLES, south and east of AVESNES at 297757.

4th Cavalry Group

In addition to protecting the east flank of the Corps between ANY-MARTIN-RIEUX (3748) and AMAGNE (6507), the 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, installed road blocks to the northeast, maintained contact with the XX Corps at in the vicinity of RETHEL and conducted active patrolling and reconnaissance. At 1410 the Group was instructed by the Commanding General to reconnoiter as far east as ROCROI (7252) and MEZIERES (8133) after MONDIEC (5846) had been secured.

Artillery

1st Division: Only 77 rounds were expended in firing 1 registration, 1 strong point, and 2 interdiction missions.

9th Division: Restricted their firing to infantry targets of enemy troops.

3rd Armored Division: Was in combat formation.

Corps: Completed move of 142nd and 188th FA Gps to assembly area in vicinity 0-2736.

Antiaircraft: No activity.

Tank Destroyers: The 899th TD Bn fired 41 rounds of HE and 26 of direct fire with the result that 2 Mark V Tanks were destroyed.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 593.

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3 SEPTEMBER 1944

The VII Corps began its swing to the east to secure crossings over the MEUSE River between NAMUR (9611) and GIVET (9275). The front continued fluid. Lack of gasoline delayed the attack of the 3rd Armored Division which later with the 1st Infantry engaged enemy march columns, elements from five divisions, attempting to escape to the east and in the carnage that insued over 7000 prisoners were taken. At 0630 an enemy column moving eastward ran into the flank of the 3rd Armored Division in the vicinity of BAVAI. Later a second column moving to the east was encountered in the vicinity of MONS.

Meanwhile the 9th Infantry advanced northeast into BELGIUM toward crossings of the MEUSE River. The 4th Cavalry Group in reconnoitering to the river drew fire from the enemy, using an old French fort on the east bank at O-8534, southeast of CHARLEVILLE. A systematic destruction of bridges was carried out by the enemy along the MEUSE River O-956264 to O-836593.

Principal escape routes eastward used by the enemy were VALENCIENNES, BAVAI, GIVRY, [illegible], MONS, BINCHES, CHARLEROI and NAMUR.

A "flying bomb" was shot down by Battery B, 474th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion at LA FORGE PHILIPPE (502573). This AA unit also dislodged snipers in a church at SOISSONS, using Bofors 40mm guns. No enemy air activity was reported other than the several planes that passed over the CP of the 3rd Armored Division at 1300.

Column cover supplied units of the 3rd Armored Division by the fighter-bombers of the IX TAC resulted in the destruction of 160 horse drawn vehicles, 93 motor transports, 3 jeeps, an armored vehicle with 3 more probably destroyed, and 60 soldiers killed. While enroute to Belgium to reconnoiter for an advance Corps command post location, a group of VII Corps Headquarters officers and men ran into a skirmish with German forces that resulted in 60 enemy killed , 40 wounded and 705 taken prisoner with no loss suffered by our troops, and also plugging a gap through which hundreds of enemy might have escaped to the east. The action took place on the northern outskirts of MAUBEUGE, France, near the border.

The motorized CP column was supported by the 2nd, 3rd and Hq Platoons of B Company, 759th Light Tank Battalion with Lt Col McWilliams, executive officer of the 109th Antiaircraft Artillery Group, in command, in the absence of Maj Lewis W. Looney, Hq Commandant.

In the enemy's headlong flight eastward a large group of retreating Germans were being contained in by the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry (1st Division), supported by 6 tanks of the 730th Tank Battalion, and air cover of fighter-bombers of the IX TAC. This 16th Infantry Battalion was making steady progress north, but because of the thinness of its lines and the large number of enemy the Germans were able to infiltrate to the MONS Road and make the route impassable for unarmored vehicles.

9th Infantry Division: On the right Corps flank the Division advanced northeast into BELGIUM toward their objective ---- MEUSE River crossings between NAMUR (9611) (exclusive) and GIVET (9275).

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3rd Armored Division: Engaged enemy columns attempting to escape east in the vicinity of MONS (3012) and in addition to inflicting very heavy casualties on the enemy in killed and wounded, captured over 2600 prisoners.

1st Infantry Division: Continued north reaching BAVAI and MONS, their objective, and captured more than 4500 prisoners.

4th Cavalry Group: Advanced east, occupied CHARLEVILLE (8335) at 1000 seized ROCOI (6952) and MEZIERES (8334) and reconnoitered the area of the MEUSE River between FUMAY (8259) and CONCHERRY (9325).

9th Infantry Division

On the right flank the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 60th Infantry attacked at 0630 against sporadic delaying action. At the same time on the left, the 39th Infantry conducted a similiar operation. The leading battalion ---- in each case the 3rd ---- was motorized, and the action was supported by elements of the Division artillery, the 9th Reconnaissance Troop, the 746th Tank Battalion and the 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Both Regiments advanced approximately twenty miles. The 60th Infantry reached an area south of SAWART (703784) and west of the BOIS DE SENZEILLE, while the leading battalion of the 39th Infantry reached FLOKENNES (778890) and the other battalions points west and north of PHILIPPEVILLE (685844 - 710825).

The 47th Infantry protected the left flank and the rear of the Division as it moved up behind the 39th Infantry, west of BEAUMONT (5078) and near BARBENCON (5486).

3rd Armored Division

The Division's attack was delayed by lack of gasoline and it operated in the vicinity of MONS throughout the day. Combat Command Hickey established and secured road blocks in and around the city, while Combat Command Boudinot performed a similiar mission to the north and west. In addition to taking over 2600 prisoners (among which were two general officers and several field officers), the Division destroyed several columns of enemy vehicles and large quantities of material while inflicting heavy losses in killed and wounded on the enemy who sought to retreat eastward. The road blocks denied him this escape route.

1st Infantry Division

During its move northward towards MAUBEUGE, the 16th Infantry received orders to assume command of the 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry and pushed on to MONS, their objective, where they were to relieve units of the 3rd Armored Division. At 1430 the 16th Infantry became heavily engaged at MAUBEUGE. The 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry, thereupon withdrew from the fight to bypass the town and continue on its mission. However, a large number of enemy forces were encountered approximately halfway between MAUBEUGE and MONS and the Battalion was engaged in this action throughout the rest of the afternoon. The 3rd Battalion of the 16th Infantry moved through to reach MONS at 1900.

Between 1200 and 1400 the remaining battalions of the 26th Infantry met heavy resistance between BAVAI and MAUBEUGE when elements of several enemy divisions seeking to escape to the east ran into their flank.

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By late in the afternoon the enemy had been sufficiently reduced to permit the Regiment to resume their advance north toward MONS. Large numbers of enemy were taken prisoner in the action that afternoon.

The 18th Infantry attacked towards its objective of BAVAI at 0800 and its leading elements entered the town two hours later. Until mid-afternoon the Regiment engaged in sharp street fighting with the enemy who sought to use the twon along his escape route to the east. By 1700 the 18th Infantry had begun to organize BAVAI for defense, although from the east, a battery of enemy artillery continued to harass the town.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: Fired a considerable number of missions on enemy infantry and vehicle columns trying to escape to the north and northeast.

9th Infantry Division: Occupied successive positions and supported the rapid advance of the division as it fired 20 close support missions. Rounds expended 1028.

Corps: Moved to assembly area vicinity of O-2765.

Antiaircraft: One raid was reported in the Corps zone when a group of about 10 enemy planes came over MELUN at 8,000 feet. The 109 AAA Gun Battalion knocked down one plane with 90mm fire. No damage was done to bridges or road centers in the town.

Tank Destroyer: The 703rd Tank Destroyer Battalion fired 162 rounds of HE and 43 AP, # 3" ammunition, destroying 49 enemy vehicles, 4 armored cars and a Mk V tank.

Prisoners of War Captured by the Corps: 7099.

4 SEPTEMBER

Upon completion of the elimination of the enemy in the BINCHE - MONS - BAVAI area the main effort of the Corps was directed toward the east as advanced units passed through CHARLEROI (0607) and reached the west bank of the MEUSE River between NAMUR (J-1296) and GIVET (O-9194). The number of enemy taken prisoner during the period was over 10,000.

With their escape routes to the east blocked, disorganized enemy groups from the remanants of 20 divisions attempted to make their way northeast from the FORET DE MORMAL and east through the area of BINCHE - MONS - BAVAI. Wholesale captures of Germans were made by the 1st Infantry and 3d Armored Divisions in cleaning up this sector.

Enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire was met by the 4th Cavalry and infantry patrols along the west bank of the MEUSE RIVER between GIVET and HOX (O-9793). Elements moving north toward the SAMBRE River encountered only small groups of enemy. Artillery fire of the enemy came from east of the MEUSE.

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The IV Tactical Air Command continued to supply column cover for the armored units and again pounded German vehicular traffic. Air claims were 56 motor transports knocked out and 32 horse drawn vehicles destroyed.

9th Infantry Division: Advanced east to the MEUSE River, meeting only slight resistance.

3rd Armored Division: Advanced east from MONS (3112), meeting small arms fire near CHARLEROI (6607) after aiding in cleaning up in BINCHES- MONS- BAVAI area.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to protect the Corps west flank and rounded up over 5000 enemy attempting to escape to the east.

4th Cavalry Group: (1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, 9th Division attached), Continued reconnaissance along MEUSE River. Was relieved south of GIVET (9175) by elements of V Corps and assembled near ROSEE (8286).

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Infantry continued to gain ground in the right half of the Corps' zone, and progressed toward their objective of seizing MEUSE River crossings. The 60th Combat Team, less the 1st Battalion, attacked at 0800 with the 2nd Battalion on the right advancing to the vicinity of AGIMONT (8977), and the 3rd Battalion proceeding to the vicinity of MAURENNE (9084). In the evening reconnaissance was begun in preparation for crossing the River at midnight.

The 39th CT attacked at the same time and in the same formation as the 60th Infantry. On approaching the west bank of the MEUSE River, north and west of DINANT (8888) the Combat Team encountered small arms, mortar and artillery fire. Operations to reach the river and cross by assault boats were suspended at 1630 on order of the Commanding General, pending plans to cross at midnight.

While the 60th and 39th Regimental Combat Teams moved forward the 47th Infantry acted as Division reserve and protected the rear from enemy infiltration. The 1st Battalion was charged with the security of BEAUMONT (5087) while the 2nd Battalion remained in the vicinity of PHILIPPEVILLE (7282) until noon. At that time the Combat Team, less the 1st Battalion moved to FLAVION (8487) to serve as possible support for either the 60th or 39th Regimental Combat Teams.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division moved at 1400 after resistance in the BINCHE-MONS- BAVAI area had been cleaned up and advanced toward their objective of NAMUR in securing corssings of the River MEUSE.

Combat Command Boudinot, on the Division right, made rapid progress. Combat Command Hickey was held up due to enemy resistance in the vicinity of CHARLEROI (6607) by enemy resistance. The Division Reserve, Combat Command Leone, followed the advance of the leading combat Commands which moved in multiple columns. At the close of the period both the Boudinot and Hickey Commands were continuting the advance toward the objective.

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While continuing to protect the west flank of the VII Corps, the 1st Infantry Division dispersed its forces over a large area to prevent enemy infiltration to the east and to mop up pockets of resistance.

The 3rd Battalion of the 16th Infantry cleared MONS of sniper fire and consolidated its position there by early morning. The 2nd Battalion, however, had to fight all the way up the road to MONS from MAUBEUGE. Meanwhile the 1st Battalion was engaged in cleaning up remaining resistance from enemy groups northwest of MAUBEUGE (3294) and by 0700 had accomplished this task. At 0900 this battalion reverted to the Division reserve.

Combat Team 18 was engaged throughout the early part of the day with enemy movement toward the east and all elements were engaged in mopping up activities in which many prisoners were taken. During mid-morning the 2nd Battalion moved west of NEUF MESNIL (2790) to contain a reported 2000 enemy. An improvised Task Force went to the west of BOIS DE LA ALNIERE to help the artillery, in close support, against the enemy above its position. Another group cleared out the enemy on the BAVAI- LE CHEVAL Raod, while a reinforced company moved to prevent infiltration to the east from the FORET DE MORMAL. By noon the town of BAVAI was "well buttoned up with road blocks all around", according to the Division report. Throughout the afternoon patrols continued to search the area and to flush the wooded area in the vicinity of coordinates 130885 for enemy groups, which netted a large number of prisoners.

In the area about LA BOUVERIE (2607) the 26th Regimental Combat Team likewise found itself engaged in the middle of retreating enemy forces. After a supply train was ambushed early in the morning near BLATIGNES (266025) and its artillery threatened at about 0900, the Regiment spent the remainder of the day in mopping up the enemy and consolidating its positions.

In the detection of movement of enemy groups and the location of his trains and vehicles, the 1st Reconnaissance Troop was very active throughout the period especially in the FORET DE MORMAL in addition to reconnoitering routes in the Division zone of action. During the day an estimated 5000 prisoners were taken by the 1st Division according to Army G-2 estimates.

Artillery

1st Division: Continued close support of the Division in mopping up enemy groups attempting to escape to the east. Missions were fired on enemy infantry and vehicles.

9th Division: supported the Division in the MEUSE River sector, firing 8 registration, 4 enemy battery, and 80 close support missions, expending approximately 4000 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Operated as combat elements.

Antiaircraft: No activity was reported.

Tank Destroyers: No activity was reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 10,807.

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5 SEPTEMBER 1944

The VII Corps advanced east, occupying NAMUR (J-9611) and initiated crossings of the MEUSE River between NAMUR and GIVET (9194). This latter operation was made in the face of enemy machine gun, mortar, 20mm and small arms fire from the east bank of the river. South of DINANT (9988) the enemy employed tanks, self-propelled guns, flame throwers, and Neberwerfers against efforts to effect the crossing. Elsewhere the resistance was scattered.

Our front line ran generally along the MEUSE River, although scattered groups of enemy were still being mopped up in the MONS area. Large numbers of prisoners were taken in the MONS- BAVAI- MAUBEUGE sector, and the number of prisoners captured by the Corps at 8871.

Fighter-bombers of the IX TAC continued to support our armored columns with top cover, and Air claims for the day were 60 motor transports destroyed, 17 horse drawn vehicles knocked out in addition to 4 motor transports and armored vehicles probably destroyed. Two houses were also leveled by the Air Force.

9th Infantry Division: Crossed the MEUSE River by ferry and foot bridge in the Division zone.

3rd Armored Division: Advanced 30 kilometers from CHARLEROI (6607) to NAMUR (9611).

1st Infantry Division: Completed mopping up in the MONS (3112) -BAVAI (1996)- MAUBEUGE (3293) area preparatory to moving east to CHARLEROI, and captured over 5000 prisoners.

4th Cavalry Group: Assembled west of the MEUSE in the vicinity of MIAVOYE (895896) and 91895).

9th Infantry Division

Crossing the MEUSE River by the 9th Infantry Division began at 0001 when the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 60th Infantry moved by assault boats to the east bank between a point north of HEER (922792) and BAAIMONT (922810). Opposed by tanks and infantry, elements of the 2nd Battalion scattered, and at 1400 were ordered to reorganize near BAIMONT. The 3rd Battalion turned north upon landing and immediately encountered tanks and infantry. Against heavy resistance they pushed to the vicinity of 938011, about 1 kilometer east of the river. The 1st Battalion remained in reserve on the west bank of the MEUSE.

Efforts of the 39th Infantry met equal resistance. Shortly after 0300 north of DINNE 965987 enemy fire sank assault boats of the 1st Battalion while those which reached the east side of the stream found the banks too steep for a landing. Battalion was forced to withdraw to RIVIERE (965990) and south to 956968. At 0500 the 3rd Battalion crossed near YVOIR (965950) without opposition, but thereafter could only move slowly against heavy enemy machine gun, mortar and artillery fire. Final positions were taken about 1 1/2 kilometers from the river at 995925. The 2nd Battalion moved from its assembly area near WARNANT (937947) and crossed the river near YVOIR, clearing at 1900 and taking up positions at 985930. Enemy fire held up the construction of a vehicle bridge in the vicinity of YVOIR.

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A demonstration fire was made by two companies of the 47th Infantry from 0100 to 0300 at VIREUX (8569) and DINANT (9888) and then reassembled at FLAVION (8487), where the 1st Battalion had also assembled after completion of its mission at BEAUMONT (5088).

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Boudinot which had reached NAMUR (9611) late on the evening of 4 September, spent the day consolidating its positions in the city, preparatory to making a crossing of the MEUSE River.

Combat Command Hickey which occupied the left of the Division zone had encountered more opposition and it was not until mid-afternoon of 5 September that this Command closed in its position northeast of NAMUR. At 1745 it received orders to invest the northern section of the city and secure bridge sites over the SAMBRE River. Construction was begun on the bridges before midnight. The 3rd Battalion of the 33rd Armored Regiment and the attached 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry, remained in the vicinity of MONS throughout the day, maintaining defensive positions and securing road blocks.

1st Infantry Division

Near BAVAI the 2nd Battalion of the 18th Infantry was heavily attacked at 0330. At 0650 reinforcements were ordered from BAVAI to assit the Battalion. However, at 0806 the attacking forces surrendered, having suffered heavy casualties. Except for this action units of the Regiment met only scattered resistance in mopping up operations. By evening the 18th Infantry reported no contact with the enemy, and a few stragglers being picked up.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 26th Infantry engaged pockets of the enemy throughout the morning. A strong combat patrol was sent to make immediate contact with the 2nd Battalion of the 18th Infantry in its fire fight at 0725 hours. An armored patrol was sent to WASMES to negotiate the surrender of a large number of enemy. At 1500 the Combat Team began a sweep east to the MSR. Mopping up operations continued with many enemy who attempted to use the MONS- LIEGE escape route to GERMANY being captured.

The 16th Infantry employed the 1st Battalion in the defense of MONS where defensive positions were strengthened while the 2nd Battalion cleaned out resistance near MAUBEUGE.

Artillery

1st Division: Supported the Division in mopping up operations Missions were fired on enemy infantry and vehicles.

9th Division: Fired 80 close support, 4 enemy battery, 8 registration missions, expending approximately 4000 rounds in supporting the Division's crossings of the MEUSE River.

3rd Armed Division: Operating as combat commands.

Antiaircraft: No activity reported.

Tank Destroyers: No activity reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps:

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6 September

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9th Infantry Division

Progress of the 9th Division across the MEUSE River proved difficult in the face of strong enemy resistance, particularly from the Der Fueher Regiment of the 2nd SS Das Reich Division. Prior to dawn the 1st Battalion of the 60th Infantry succeeded in crossing the river south of HERMETON SUR MEUSE (922812) and attacked towards BLAIMONT (9282). Tank and infantry opposition prevented the capture of the town until evening. Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion occupied HASTIERE-LAVAUX until the 1120th Engineer Combat Group completed a class 40 bridge. The 2nd Battalion as the reserve, protected the southern crossing north of HERR (922-792).

Early in the morning the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 47th Infantry attempted to cross the MEUSE south of HERMETON SUR MEUSE (911811). The 1st Battalion went too far north, landed on an island where heavy small arms fire was met from the far bank, and the Battalion was forced to withdraw to the west side of the river. The 3rd Battalion moved north to where the 60th RCT had previously crossed and was followed over the river by the 1st Battalion. Throughout the remainder of the day the 1st Battalion remained north of HERR occupied with enemy resistance and at the close of the period held positions in the vicinity of 930-790. The 3rd Battalion moved east about a mile where enemy resistance, including 20mm and small arms fire, built up until he was able to launch a counter attack at 1500. The 3rd Battalion succeeded in replusing this threat with the aid of Division artillery. Final positions were taken up about 2 kilometers south of BLAIMONT in the vicinity of 940800. The 2nd Battalion, as reserve, and 2 platoons of the 746th Tank Battalion crossed at HASTIERE- LAVAUX after the bridg e was completed.

With Task Force King of Combat Command Boudinot, 3rd Armored Division attached, the 39th CT split its forces to assure a succesful exploitation of its bridgehead near YVOIR (965950). The 1st Battalion remained on the high ground of the west bank in the vicinity of GRANGE (955925). The 2nd Battalion pushed ahead against continuous resistance to the northeast. Later it joined with Task Force King to attack towards DINANT (9988). Final positions were taken up in the vicinity of HOUX at coordinates 985930. The 3rd Battalion moved south along the east bank to protect the right flank. Positions were taken up north of DINANT at 986895. Enemy mortar and machine gun fire hindered completion of the bridge near YVOIR.

3rd Armored Division

Lack of fuel and lubricant prevented the 3rd Armored Division from moving as planned at 0900. At 1245 Combat Command Boudinot, less Task Force King attached to 39th Infantry, began its advance to HUY via route #2 north of the MEUSE River. Task Force Hogan, which had completed its mission with the 1st Division and reverted to 3rd Armored Control, was attached to Combat Command Boudinot, and marched towards HUY via route #4, on the right flank of the Division zone. By night fall it had covered approximately 1/3 the distance to its objective, and was in the vicinity of 068068. Other elements of the Command reached the objective of HUY (2316).

Combat Command Hickey with the aid of several infantry companies of the Reserve, cleaned out resistance in NAMUR. The Command then moved along route #1 on the left of the Divisional zone towards HUY. Half-way to its objective resistance was encountered that included small arms, anti-tank and artillery fires, but

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by the close of the period the Combat Command had reached a position to the west of the town with its two columns in the vicinity of the objective to the north and west of HUY at 229215 (near WANZOUL) and 218177 (near WANZE).

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division began its movement in the zone of the 3rd Armored Division towards CHARLEROI. At 1200 the 18th Infantry left its assembly area and by 1800 the 2nd Battalion and the 5th and 32nd Field Artillery Battalions had closed in the area in the vicinity of FOSSE (845048). At the same time the 26th Infantry moved towards its objective of CHARLEROI, and all elements arrived by 1820. The 16th Infantry remained near MONS completing mopping up operations while the 2nd Battalion was placed along the MSR northwest of MAUBEUGE (3294).

Artillery

9th Div: Continued support of the Division in its crossing of the MEUSE River. Fired 2 tank, 12 counterbattery, and 136 close support missions, expending a total of 7494 rounds.

Antiaircraft: No action for the period was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 8 rounds, captured 38 prisoners. The Reconnaissance Company of the 899th TD Bn destroyed 8 machine gun nests and captured 70 prisoners. The 703d TD Bn destroyed 10 GP vehicles and captured 7 prisoners.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 3481

7 SEPTEMBER

VII Corps troops advanced east along the MEUSE River to reach LIEGE (4729). At the same time, bridgeheads across the MEUSE were strengthened from HUY (2316) to GIVET (9275). Well organized and determined resistance was encountered from the Der Fuehrer Regiment, 2d SS Das Reich Division east of the MEUSE in the expansion of our bridgehead between HOUX and GIVET. Enemy strong points in this area consisted of infantry, generally in platoon or company strength, defending road blocks and supported by flanking machine gun fire. Mopping up activity of enemy stragglers in the MONS-BAVAI sector and in the wooded area along the SAMBRE River were brought to a close with approximately 30,000 prisoners of war taken out of the area for the entire period.

North of the SAMBRE River in the CHARLROI-NAMUR sector only a slight screening action by elements of the 347th Infantry Division was encountered. Armored columns moving northward along the MEUSE River met scattered enemy opposition in their advance toward LIEGE. Moderate artillery fire was employed by the enemy in an attempt to deny our crossing of the LESSE River.

Due to the weather no activity was possible in the air.

9th Infantry Division: Consolidated the bridgehead across the MEUSE River mopped up resistance near DINANT(9888), and began advance to the northeast.

3d Armored Division: Advanced against light resistance to LIEGE (4829).

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7 September

1st Infantry Division: Continued east in the zone of the 3d Armd Div and mopped up small pockets of resistance.

4th Cavalry Group: Crossed the MEUSE River and screened the south flank of the Corps maintaining contact with elements of the V Corps.

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Infantry Division both consolidated its positions across the MEUSE River and advanced to the northeast. The 60th Infantry made rapid progress until afternoon, when a strong point west of BOISSELLES (0485) was encountered. The 3d Battalion, in the lead, deployed and overcame the resistance in two and a half hours. The 60th Infantry closed in the area south of HUISSONVILLE (1682) at 2300.

By 1200 the 47th Infantry had completed its crossing of the MEUSE. The 1st and 3rd Battalions advanced against scattered enemy resistance to the east of CIVEY (1291) where defenses were organized for the night. The 1st Battalion remained as reserve at HASTIERE-LAVAUX.

DINANT fell to the combined attack of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 39th Infantry, and Task Force King of Combat Command Boudinot, 3d Armored Division, which was attached to the Regiment. At 1230 the 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to an assembly area approximately 3 kilometers south of LEIGNON (1284), and Task Force King reverted to 3d Armored control.

3d Armored Division

Combat Command Hickey received orders at 1300 to advance by the two northern routes on LIEGE while Combat Command Boudinot was ordered to advance by the southern route. The 83d Reconnaissance Battalion preceeded the two combat commands and seized the bridges at LIEGE. Combat Command Boudinot made rapid progress and reached the objective by 1930. However, Combat Command Hickey encountered heavy AT and artillery fire half way to LIEGE, and at the end of the day assembled northwest of the objective city. Patrols were sent into LIEGE by the command. Task Force King, after its release from the 9th Infantry Division, encountered more or less continuous opposition throughout the day enroute to join Combat Command Boudinot and bivouaced for the night southwest of LIEGE.

1st Infantry Division

Ordered to advance at 0800 the 18th Infantry moved off to the objective of NAMUR and except for a special task force which cleaned out THY LE CHATEAU (6592) little opposition was met with the unit taking up positions to the northwest of NAMUR (9815). The 26th Infantry also moved off at 0800 on the left flank of the Division to reach its objective in the vicinity of L'Ange1 (9225), late in the afternoon. The 16th Infantry established a bridgehead at HUY (2314) relieving Combat Command Boudinot. The 1st and 3d Battalions attained their objectives by late afternoon and the 2d Battalion went into position east of POULHIAS (0902).

Artillery

1st Div: Moved east with the Division toward the new objective of LIEGE.
3d Armd Div: Supported the Division in mopping up LIEGE.
9th Div: Supported the Division as it advanced east beyond the MEUSE River.
A considerable number of close support missions were fired.

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7 September

Antiaircraft: No action was reported for the period ending 070600.
Tank Destroyers: No action reported.
Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 2546.

8 SEPTEMBER

The VII Corps completed the occupation of LIEGE (4729) and prepared to continue its mission to the East. Resistance north of the MEUSE River between NAMUR and LIEGE had ceased except for a few remaining stragglers. The few remaining enemy in the city of LIEGE were being rapidly mopped up. South of the MEUSE River the 2d SS Das Reich Division attempted to establish a defensive line that ran generally SOUBIT TINLOT - MODAVE - HUERRE - HOGNE. Our numerous penetrations forced the enemy to abandon the defensive line and to establish instead several well fortified strong points at road blocks and communication centers. Those strong points were covered by small elements of dismounted enemy and supported by 2 or 3 roving light tanks or armored cars to effect a delaying action.

In the vicinity of ROCOURT (K-4531) the 3d Armd Div destroyed seven enemy tanks (Mark IV's). Elsewhere on the Corps front tanks operated in groups of 2 or 3 in support of enemy infantry. Enemy artillery fell on the road southwest of MAFFE and in the vicinity of HOTTON.

Mopping up operations in the Corps zone netted an additional 1239 prisoners for the period ending 2400.

Column cover was continued by the IX Tactical Air Command for our armored units and the Air reported good results for the day with out fighter-bombers claiming the destruction of 9 locomotives and 20 freight cars, while 35 additional cars were strafed and explosions and fires were observed in the marshalling yards.

9th Infantry Division: Advanced 25 miles northeast against scattered enemy resistance.

3d Armored Division: Mopped up enemy resistance in LIEGE and began reconnaissance toward VERVIERS (6723).

1st Infantry Division: Advanced 25 miles northeast to vicinity of LIEGE, encountering no opposition.

4th Cavalry Group: Advanced east against enemy resistance centered around road blocks, reaching a line that extended from the vicinity of GROS CHENE (3198) south to near HOTTON (3887).

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Div advanced approximately 25 miles to the northeast against scattered enemy resistance. The 60th Infantry attacked at 0830 meeting small detachments of enemy near VERLEE (2599) and larger groups near BOIS ET BORSU (2902). By 1730 all groups had reached the objective in the area southwest of OUFFET (3907).

At 0830 the 39th Infantry also attacked encountering intermittant enemy action throughout the day. By evening all units were on the objective in the area southwest of VILLERS LE TEMPLE (320144-338128-330126). Meanwhile the 1st and 3d Battalions of the 47th Infantry advanced by motor to an assembly area south of LIEGE (5120) and the 2d Bn marched to DINANT (9888) and then shuttled to join the rest of the Regiment.

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3d Armored Division

Combat Command Hickey was assigned the task of clearing out the city of LIEGE, north of the river, while Combat Command Boudinot mopped up to the south. Both Commands began operations early in the morning and met with only very light opposition. Construction of a bridge which was begun at 1545 had been completed by 2400. Task Force King rejoined Combat Command Boudinot at 1330 and moved into position to oppose any attacks from the north and east. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion moved east at 1700 to reconnoiter VERVIERS and to seize bridges across LA VESDRE River.

1st Infantry Division

Advancing at 0900 the 18th Infantry by mid-afternoon had reached assigned objectives in the vicinity of HORIUN (32327-345286) and west of GLEIXHE (333263). The 26th Infantry, less the 1st Battalion attached to the 3rd Armored Division, moved on the north flank of the Division zone at 0930 and by late afternoon had reached its objective with elements on the northwestern edge of LIEGE (460305) and at HOVILLE (334314), 12 Kilometers west of the city. Elements of both the 18th and 26th Infantry Regiments and the 1st Reconnaissance Troop made contact with 3rd Armored Division units in LIEGE. The 16th Infantry remained at HUY (2316) to hold that town and protect bridges.

Artillery

Due to the rapid movement of the Corps no Field Artillery report was published by VII Corps Artillery.

Anti-aircraft: No enemy aircraft were engaged during the period. A few prisoners continued to be taken by elements of the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: Reported no contact with the enemy.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 1239.

9 SEPTEMBER 1944.

The VII Corps advanced east to the vicinity of VERVIERS (6723) against scattered resistance in the center, and stiffening opposition on the right flank, where the 9th Infantry Division had the area south of VESDRE River. No definite enemy front line existed, although strong points at SPRIMONT (5213), COMBLAIN AU PONT (4510), HOTTON (3688) and FRONVILLE (3491) were stubbornly held. A strong delaying action held up the south flank of the Corps. Numerous bridges in this sector were blown by the enemy and covered by 20mm and AT guns. Reconnaissance was slowed by road blocks covered with intense AT fire.

Dug in tanks, infantry and artillery were used by the enemy and encountered at LOUVEIGNE (K-5616). Scattered groups of enemy that had been by-passed were mopped up in the ROLOUX (K-3430)- GLEIXHE (K-3426) sector. At LOUVEIGNE three Me-109's were destroyed with AA claiming one and our fighters two.

Tactical reconnaissance reported at 1000 hours 200 motorized enemy transports plus troops marching on foot and on bicycles moving toward AACHEN. Armed reconnaissance and column cover of the IX Tactical Air Command reported the destruction of 113 motor transports, 6 staff cars, 10 locomotives, 10 armored vehicles, 30

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horse drawn vehicles, a bridge and gun position, and 33 other miscellaneous vehicles all damaged.

9th Infantry Division: Crossed L'OURTHE River and advanced east, meeting stiffening resistance on its right.

3rd Armored Division: Advanced east from LIEGE (4729) to the vicinity of VERVIERS (6723) meeting determined enemy resistance at critical terrain features.

1st Infantry Division: Mopped up scattered pockets of enemy resistance.

4th Cavalry Group: Advanced east on right of Corps zone, maintaining contact with V Corps and reached the general line HAMOIR (4304)- HAMPEAU (3886).

9th Infantry Division

The 60th Infantry on the right flank of the Division, moved in a motorized column, led by the 3rd Battalion. The River L'OURTHE was crossed at POULSEUR (4714), and again at AYWAILLE (5310) after moving through SPRIMONT (5213) where a strong point was reduced. Otherwise only scattered resistance was encountered throughout the advance. The 1st Battalion was left to guard the northern approaches to the bridge at AYWAILLE while demolition charges were removed. The 60th Infantry bivouaced in this area for the night.

The 39th Infantry in the middle of the Divisional zone, entrucked at 0800 and advanced to the vicinity of GOMZE ANDAUMONT (550180), where it attacked against enemy tank, infantry and mortar fire. Upon arrival of elements of the 3rd Armored Division the enemy withdrew. Because of armored traffic on the roads further advance of the 39th Infantry wasdelayed and defensive positions were taken up for the night in the vicinity of LOUVEIGNE (5616).

The 47th Infantry operated as a combat team with the 3rd Armored Division to which it had been attached.

3rd Armored Division

In the 3rd Armored Division's advance only Combat Command Boudinot met serious opposition. Having been relieved by the attached 47th Infantry of the 9th Division, of maintaining defensive positions in LIEGE, the Combat Command attacked on its assigned mission of securing the ground to the south of VERVIERS (6723) at 1100. Determined resistance, including tanks, anti-tank guns, and artillery were encountered immediately upon leaving LIEGE. The Command was forced to coil for the night short of its objective, in the vicinity of PEPINSTER (636-208) and 639170, southwest of VERVIERS.

Combat Command Hickey moved east at 1200, after being relieved in LIEGE by elements of the 1st Infantry Division. Moderate resistance was encountered in accomplishing its assigned mission of securing the high ground north and northwest of VERVIERS. By 2100 the Command had closed in the vicinity of 653266 and 647244 with Task Forces Doan and Blanchard, respectively.

Combat Command Rosemberger was ordered to follow Combat Command Boudinot, but with the leading Command slowed due to the heavy resistance, this reserve force was dealyed and at the close of the period were still in the process of crossing the MEUSE River.

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1st Infantry Division

The entire 1st Infantry Division, except the 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry, attached to the 3rd Armored Division, concentrated in the area between LIEGE and HERVE (6329) where the 3rd Armored Division elements were relieved and the infantry units prepared for an advance against the German frontier.

Artillery

1st Division: Supported the Division, firing a few missions on infantry and vehicles.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to support the advance of the Division to the east, firing on several targets of opportunity.

9th Division: Supported the Division in securing objectives southeast of LIEGE, firing 1 counterbattery and 3 close support missions. Rounds expended: 134.

Anti-aircraft: No action for the period ending 090600 was reported by the 109th AA^A GP charged with guarding bridges in the Corps zone.

Tank Destroyers: 703rd TD Bn fired 162 rounds of HE and 43-3" AP direct fire, destroying 6 vehicles and an unknown number of enemy personnel. The 899th TD Bn fired 25 rounds 3" AP and 35 rounds of HE direct. Results unknown.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 2252.

10 SEPTEMBER 1944

Positions in the vicinity of VERVIERS (6722) were consolidated as the VII Corps continued its eastward advance in preparation for a drive into German. The first artillery fire to land on German soil was that of Battery B, 991st Field Artillery Battalion at 1723.

The enemy continued his stubborn defensive action throughout the period in delaying our advance. Booby traps, minefield and road blocks, consisting of felled trees covered by intense small arms fire and 2 or 3 roving tanks were employed by the enemy in his delaying action. The 2nd SS Das Reich Division was not in contact with Corps troops, having withdrawn to the east leaving behind miscellaneous units to resist the advance.

No definite enemy front line was encountered, but only small enemy groups of infantry supported by component weapons, which operated along the entire Corps front. Homeguard, Security, GHQ, AA, Radar, Engineer, Telephone, MP, and training units were employed as fighting infantry troops by the enemy along with the 347th Infantry Division. G-2 reported that he was operating a close reconnaissance screen to ascertain our dispositions, locations and strength as we neared the border line.

9th Infantry Division: Advanced east and south against scattered enemy resistance.

3rd Armored Division: Concentrated near VERVIERS (6722), crossing VESDRE River, and extended reconnaissance to ROE (7422).

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1st Infantry Division. Moved from west of LIEGE and HUY (2512) to vicinity of HEVRE (6228), meeting only rear guard action.

4th Cavalry Group. Advanced to the line of HOEGAS River and to MALMEDY (7904), maintaining contact with the 4th Infantry Division on the Corps' right flank.

9th Infantry Division

Having secured the bridges and their approaches at AYWAILLE (5310) the 60th Infantry prepared to send the 1st and 3rd Battalions to the south to destroy enemy groups moving east in front of the 4th Cavalry. Lack of fuel for supporting tanks held up the attack during the morning, but at 1230 the two battalions jumped off with out armored support. A series of road blocks were reduced and contact established with the Cavalry. The 1st Battalion moved to AYAN (5208) and the 3rd Battalion to WERBOMONT (5499). The 2nd Battalion remained in position.

The 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 39th Infantry remained near LOUVEIGNE (5616) throughout the day. The 3rd Battalion moved at 0830 to assist elements of the 3rd Armored Division crossing the ROBAIVE River at THEUX (6316) by footbridge and occupying the high ground near CHEUX (6518).

Reverting to Division control at 0930 the 47th Infantry assembled near BEAUFAYS (5120) with the bulk of its units closing there by 1800. Company F and the mortar platoon of H Company were sent to defend the VII Corps Headquarters advanced echelon which was located at CHATEAU WEIGMONT (SOUMAGNE) Tanks guarded bridges at THLF (4721) and BEAUFAYS (5120), which was in front of both infantry divisions.

3rd Armored Division

In the southern zone of the 3rd Armored Division, below the VESDRE River, Combat Command Boudinot secured the area south of VERVIERS and conducted vigorous patrolling action eastward to a line running south from LIMBOURG (7326). Task Forces Iand 2 occupied the right and center, respectively, and encountered hasty road blocks and minefields in large numbers. Company F leading the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion just south of the river, was stopped short of its objective, LAC DE LA GILEPPE, by very stubborn enemy resistance, and the objective was assigned to the Combat Command for the next day.

Operating north of the river and east of VERVIERS, Combat Command Hickey consolidated and improved defensive positions during the day. A tank battalion with infantry elements were sent north to secure HERVE (6329) and the road junction at NICHEROUX (577272), and reverted to Combat Command Hickey at 1300.

1st Infantry Division

The Division crossed the MEUSE River at LIEGE and moved to positions in the vicinity of HERVE, within 12 miles of the German border, and was prepared to continue the advance against the WEST WALL and toward their ultimate objective of AACHEN. The 16th Infantry moved from HUY to HERVE without opposition, jumping off at 0730 and closing in their new area by 1530. The 18th Infantry which also moved out at 0730 closed in their new area at 1515 and the area was prepared for defense.

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10 September

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After remaining in position during the night the 26th Infantry moved out at 0830, less the 3rd Battalion, and crossed the river at LIEGE. By 1320 the 26th Infantry closed in its new positions. At the end of the period the 2nd Battalion was at 560303 nd the 3rd Battalion at 570300, both in the vicinity of TIGNEE, west of VERVE.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: Fired 3 registration, 1 counterbattery, 1 tank, 1 AA, 6 vehicle, and 5 close support missions, expending 262 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired several missions in support of the Division.

9th Division: Fired 1 tank and 3 close support missions, expending 86 rounds.

Anti-aircraft: 486th AAA AW Bn destroyed 1 of 3 Me 109's that came over.

Tank Destroyers: No activity was reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 402.

11 SEPTEMBER 1944

Continuing the advance eastward VII Corps troops occupied EUPEN (K-8027) and concentrated troops near the frontier in preperation for the attack against Germany proper. The enemy front line ran generally south of DALHEM (K-5836) - AUBEL (K-6735), northeast of EUPEN, east of MALMEDY (K-7804) - STAVELOT (K-7101).

The enemy continued his rear guard actionbased on road blocks and minefields covered by small arms and automatic weapons fire, supported by self-ppopelled guns and artillery. In the northern sector, heavy 155mm long-range artillery was encountered south of DALHEM (K-4836) and enemy, of battalion strength supported by two tanks were engaged north of AUBEL. Strong enemy resistance from tanks and self-propelled guns, believed to have been part of the newely identified 105th Pz Brigade, was met in the vicinity of LIERNEUX (K-7425) by our armored columns.

EUPEN and MALMEDY were both cleared of the enemy. Further to the south enemy in company to battalion strength, supported by artillery and ligh armored units, was encountered in the vicinity of STAVELOT (K-7101). There was a notable increase in artillery fire, especially long-range artillery, throughout the Corps sector.

German units that were in contact with VII Corps troops were in addition to the 105th Pz Brigade, the 116th Pz Division, the 16th Security and 47th Pioneer Regiments, and elements of the 2nd SS Das Reich Division.

While losing only one plane the IX TAC continued to support Corps troops during the day and reported the destruction of 8 Luftwaffe craft over VII Corps area in addition to 29 motor transports, an artillery piece, 2 staff cars, 6 armored vehicles, 2 half-tracks, 2 trucks, 5 locomotives, a train, another locomotive and train of 25 cars, and 10 more railroad cars by burning. Other air claims were 8 armored vehicle probably destroyed, and 2 damaged, and a train damaged.

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9th Infantry Division: Moved the 47th Infantry north of VERVIERS (K-6723), sent out patrols, consolidated positions, and dispatched the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry, to assist the 4th Cavalry Group in destroying enemy elements in the vicinity of WINAMPLANCHE (K-6410).

3rd Armored Division: Attacked to the east, securing LIMBOURG and EUPEN, and consolidated positions with the Reserve holding EUPEN.

1st Infantry Division: Moved 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, and entire 18th Infantry to objectives, meeting moderate to strong enemy rear guard action.

4th Cavalry Group: Secured MALMEDY; advanced reconnaissance elements to the general line TIEGE (K-7014), MALMEDY (7804), VIELSALM (7089), and maintained contact with the V Corps. Met scattered to strong resistance.

9th Infantry Division

To the south toward the right flank where the 4th Cavalry was covering the Corps flank, the 9th Infantry Division moved elements in regrouping its three infantry regiments. All units of the 39th Infantry remained in place during the morning, and upon orders received at 1400 moved across the river at THEUX (K-6316) and went into an assembly area there. At 1930 the Regiment was instructed to move, less the 1st Battalion, to assist the 4th Cavalry Group in the destruction of enemy in the vicinity of WINAMPLANCHE (6410). The 2nd Battalion was alerted and moved out at 2020, halting at 2135 because of darkness. At the close of the period the three battalions were respectively occupying the following positions: 1st, vicinity of SOHAN (K-645192), 2nd vicinity of NEAUFMARTEAU (K-693177), 3rd, just north of road running to VERVIERS, along the south edge of the wooded area, (K-665187).

At 0900 the 47th Infantry moved from its assembly area in the vicinity of BEAUFAYS (K-515200) to another area, northeast of VERVIERS at K-690200 and the movement was completed by 1700. In this move the area that had orginally been designated was under artillery fire and the change was made. Final positions occupied were as follows: 1st Battalion near TOMBEAUX at K-695260, 2nd Battalion at WESTY (K-678249), and the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of RENOUPRE (K-700257).

Initially the 60th Infantry remained in its previous positions, and at 1200 was ordered to move to an assembly area northeast of SPRIMONT (K-5312). The move was started at 1500 with the 3rd, 2nd, and separate companies of the 1st Battalion moving in that order. All units closed in the new area by 1900. A detachment consisting of Company E and the 2nd Battalion AT Platoon was left to guard the bridge at AYWAILLE (K-5210). At 1230 hours Company G relieved C Company of the 39th Infantry as special guard at the Division CP.

3rd Armored Division

The Division attacked promptly at 0800 with Combat Commands abreast, Boudinot on the right and Hickey on the left. Both Task Forces of Combat Command Hickey were on the objective, the commanding ground, in the vicinity of K-8033 at 1700 hours after having encountered constant opposition from enemy tanks, infantry and artillery, throughout their advance. Final positions were taken by Task Force Blanchard on the right at K-802315 and by Task Force Doan at K-792324. Both locations were north of EUPEN.

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Combat Command Boudinot swung off with Task Force Lovelady on the right and Task Force King on the left at 0800 to secure the assigned objective of EUPEN (K-8027). Task Force Lovelady swung south and then turned east to approach the town from the south. Meanwhile Task Force King encountered strong enemy opposition from tanks, infantry and small arms fire in the vicinity of LIMBOURG (K-7326). Task Force Richardson of the Reserve (1 battalion of tanks and 1 of infantry, less 1 company, each, and elements of the 23rd Armored Engineer Battalion) was attached to Task Force King at LIMBOURG at 1200 with the mission of securing the town and constructing a bridge over the river at that point.

However, due to the successful by-passing of the town by Task Force King, the securing of LIMBOURG was unnecessary and Task Force Richardson followed Task Force King to its objective of EUPEN which was reached at 1600. The remainder of the Reserve followed the two inside columns of the Combat Commands and occupied EUPEN and at the close of the period were securing the town. Combat Command Boudinot went into assembly areas northeast of EUPEN with Task Force Lovelady at 829295 and King at 820306. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion screened the move of the Division to the east and conducted active patrols to the northeast, east and southeast of the objective within the Corps zone.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Battalion of the 16th Infantry attacked at 1300 to secure objectives near HENRI CHAPPELL (725325), and shortly after 2000 the battalion was on its objective and had commenced consolidating the positions. The 18th Infantry attacked at 1300 to take CHAUMONT (636319) and before 1700 the leading 1st Battalion was on the objective. The 26th Infantry moved to take limited objectives in the vicinity of HERVE, and the Division as a whole was in position for the forthcoming attack on AACHEN, beyond the WEST WALL.

Artillery

1st Division: Supported the Division as it advance east. Fired 5 registration, 8 infantry, 4 tank, 8 vehicle, 3 preperation, 1 enemy gun, and 2 pillbox missions.

3rd Armored Division: Supported task forces as they advanced northeast.

9th Division: Fired 1 counterbattery and 3 close support missions, expending 118 rounds.

Corps: Nothing to report.

Anti-aircraft: 109th AAA Gp claimed three planes with 109th AAA Gun Battalion credited with 1 "Cat I" and the 474th AA AW Bn credited with 2 CAT II" claims.

Tank Destroyers: Co B, 703rd TD Bn fired 12 rounds of 3" AP and 40 rounds of 3" direct fire. Destroyed 3 vehicle Gps, and 1 AT Gun. Co B, 634th TD Bn fired 38 rounds of 3" APC and 40 rounds of HE at concrete pillboxes.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 591.

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12 SEPTEMBER 1944

The Commanding General ordered VII Corps forces to reconnoiter in force within their respective zones of action in preparation for an attack on the SIEGFRIED LINE in accordance with First U.S. Army directive. By the end of the period the four major components of the Corps were roughly abreast, with the 4th Cavalry Group on the southern flank, the 9th Infantry Division in the right center, the 3rd Armored Division in the left center, and the 1st Infantry Division on the northern flank.

The enemy met the Corps advance with active resistance. Screening action based on road blocks and supported by anti-tank and artillery fire was met west and south of AACHEN (K-8543). Small groups of infantry, aided by mortars and artillery, resisted the advance northeast of MORESNET (K-7637). A small scale counterattack by infantry and artillery was attempted at 1315 near EUPEN (K-8027). Observed artillery fire fell on the high ground east of SHIPPENAEKEN (K-740390) throughout the day, while long range fire fell on the road between LUXBOURG (K-7326) and EUPEN (K-8027) at noon.

The speed with which the Corps moved was illustrated by the 1st Infantry Division, which found itself engaged in four countries: Holland, Germany, Belgium, and France.

Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command in support of VII Corps ground troops supplied armed reconnaissance and succeeded in destroying 4 locomotives at F-1805. Other air claims for the day were 6 armored vehicles destroyed and 3 probably destroyed, and 1 armored type transport destroyed and 5 other motor transports knocked out.

9th Infantry Division: 39th Infantry (minus 1st Battalion) mopped up resistance in some of the 4th Cavalry Group and returned to regimental assembly area. Divisional reconnaissance pushed east to the vicinity of SOURBRODT (870095).

3rd Armored Division: Advanced reconnaissance in force into GERMANY, first crossing border at 1450. Elements of Combat Command Hickey reached dragon's-tooth obstacles and were preparing to breach the barrier.

1st Infantry Division: Advanced against strong resistance from tanks, infantry, mines, and roadblocks. Elements of 16th Infantry crossed GERMAN border at 1515.

4th Cavalry Group: Advanced east against sporadic small arms and artillery fire reaching general line WEYWERTZ (K-8605)- ST. VITH (K-8588).

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Combat Team, less the 1st Battalion, moved south at 0711, 3rd Battalion on the right and 2nd Battalion on the left, to clear the area south of STOUMONT (K-6302) and LA GLEIZE (K-6503). No contact with enemy was made, and the force returned to original area east of THEUX (K-6316) by 1850.

49th Combat Team remained in assembly area, sending out a reconnaissance party at 1600 in preparation for move the following day.

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~~60th Combat Team remained in its assembly area.~~

The 9th Reconnaissance Troup, reinforced with a company of infantry (less one platoon) and one platoon of tank destroyers reconnoitered east in the divisional zone to determine enemy strength.

3rd Armored Division

Both Combat Commands were assigned the mission of patrolling vigorously to the east, to reconnoiter the SIEGFRIED LINE for points of passage and strength of enemy. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion moved out at 0630 to explore the area southeast of EUPEN (K-8027) and encountered hasty road blocks and road craters. Leading elements reached a position near the CROIX MEYER (K-690238) at 1700, when the battalion was ordered south to the right flank of Combat Command Boudinot. It assembled at this position just west of the GERMAN Border, ready to continue its mission the next day.

Combat Command Boudinot sent out an armored patrol of company strength, which found advance impossible beyond a cross roads 2 miles east of EUPEN (K-857283). Thereupon another patrol, followed by Task Force 1 pushed forward by a northern route to cross the frontier at 1451. Task Force 2, however, was held up by a minefield until 1750 and reached the vicinity of PETTHEIS (K-8029), followed by the rest of Combat Command Boudinot.

Combat Command Hickey sent out a strong patrol in the northern part of the divisional zone of action which met only slight resistance. Thereupon Task Force Y moved towards the east, being stopped at 1750 by the Dragons-Teeth of the SIEGFRIED LINE. Task Force Y was not committed.

1st Infantry Division

The 16th Combat Team sent its 1st Battalion east at 0800 to reconnoiter and seize if necessary the high ground just east of the GERMAN border. A firefight developed at MORESNET (K-777363) at 1200 which lasted until mid-afternoon. The 3rd battalion followed through scattered resistance, and moved late in the afternoon to cut the road between AACHEN (K-8543) and HENRY-CHAPELLE (K-7333). The 2nd Battalion followed as reserve, the Combat Team having accomplished its mission. C company entered GERMANY at 1515.

The 1st and 3rd Battalions of 18th Combat Team began a movement northeast to reconnoiter north of the AACHEN - LIEGE road early in the morning, and by 1200 had run into enemy tanks and large numbers of troops from VORSEVDT (K-745-) to BUSCHERT (K-745301). Artillery support caused the enemy to scatter, and throughout the afternoon both battalions engaged in periodic fire fights. At approximately 1700, elements of the 3rd Battalion moved forward to the high ground near GEMMENICH (K-766400); meanwhile, the 1st battalion occupied HOMBURG (K-718377) by 1830. The 2nd Battalion, as reserve, began its advance at 1300. At 1600 it had an outpost near FIEFH FULIEN (K-705409), composed of Company E, just north of the Belgian - Holland border.

The 26th Combat Team relieved elements of the 18th Combat Team in the vicinity of AUBEL (K-6736), and the 2nd and 3rd battalions took up positions in that area. The 1st Battalion remained attached to the 3rd Armored Division.

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Throughout the day, the 1st Reconnaissance Troop prefromed the mission of screening to the north. It located pockets of enemy and hostile mine fields, and contacted the 125th Cavalry Group of the 30th Infantry Division.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Group completed its assembly movement across the SAUM River. Determined resistance of small arms, automatic, and medium artillery was received along the line: WAIMES (K-845032)- BORN (P-850940) Preparation was made for extending reconnaissance farther east.

Artillery

Supported the advance of the division toward AACHEN (K-8543). Fired missions as follows: 5 registration, 9 vehicles and infantry, 5 on infantry, 1 on old fort, 3 on bicycle troops, 3 mortar, 3 tank, and 1 road marking. Rounds expended: 781.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to support the advance of the division into GERMANY.

9th Division: Supported division as it moved into area southeast of EUPEN.

Corps artillery: Made plans for employment of 195 Firld Artillery Battalion (8" howitzer) and 266 Field Artillery Battalion (240mm howitzer) in support of Corps attack of 14 September.

Anti-aircraft: 413th AAA Battalion defending bridges at LIEGE, engaged 10 enemy aircraft in 6 raids, during the period destroyed 1 and probably 1 more enemy craft.

Tank Destroyers: Co C, 703rd TD Battalion destroyed 1 Mk V tank and 1 AT gun.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 628.

13 SEPTEMBER 1944

The strategy of the VII Corps in its attack upon GERMANY became clear with the issuance of Field Order No. 11, 13 September. In close cooperation, the 9th Infantry Division, 3rd Armored Division, and the 1st Infantry Division were to throw their weight northeast to crack the WEST WALL South of AACHEN (K-8443), take ESCHWEILER (K-9648) as an intermediate objective, move east to DUREN (F-1246), and prepare to drive toward the RHINE River in the vicinity of BONN (F-5538). The 9th Infantry Division, therefore, was ordered to outflank enemy at ZWEIFALL (K-9536) and VICHT (K-9639) and to seize road centers near DUREN (F-1246). The 3rd Armored Division was expected to penetrate to ESCHWEILER (K-9648) and to prepare to swing east to DUREN. (F-1246). The 1st Infantry Division planned to attack and envelop AACHEN from the south and east and to seize the high ground northeast of the city. The 4th Cavalry Group was to protect the Corps right flank and maintain contact with the 9th Infantry Division on the left. The artillery of each division was strengthened by the attachment of a battalion of 155mm guns, while the Corps planned to employ two battalions, one 8" howitzer and one 240mm howitzer, in general support.

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In comformance with this plan, all line troops of the Corps conducted vigorous patrolling. Elements of the 3rd Armored Division and 1st Infantry Division penetrated the outer defenses of the SIEGFRIED LINE.

Sine the enemy fell back from the MEUSE River, he had enforced all the delay within his power in order to gain time for regrouping of troops and for organizing the defense of the WEST WALL. In front of the wall, the enemy employed road blocks, anti-tank obstacles, and pillboxes, using artillery, anti-tank and mortar fire to cover the approaches. The Dragon's-Teeth were covered with similar fire, causing considerable difficulty for the advancing armor. Behind the concrete obstacles, enemy resisted with varying degrees of stubborness from pillboxes. Not all of these emplacements were manned, nor were they organized as mutually supporting. Enemy troops which Intelligence sources expected to defend the WEST WALL varied from highly trained remenants of SS divisions to hastily armed security and construction units. In the vicinity of AACHEN (K-8443), the 347th Infantry Division resisted the advance of the VII Corps. Elsewhere along the front, elements of the 105th Panzer Brigade, 116th Panzer Division, 16th Security Regiment, 719th Pioneer Battalion, 936th Assault Gun Bn, 2nd SS "Das Reich" Panzer Division, and a further conglomeration of Corps, Army, and headquarters troops were identified.

Poor visibility prevented IX Tactical Air Command from operating beyond the destruction of two gun positions.

9th Infantry Division: Cleared the wooded area HERTOGENWALD (K-8020), captured road center and concentration camp at ELSENBORN (K-9207), and concentrated east and south of EUPEN (K-7927).

3rd Armored Division: Continued reconnaissance in force, making limited advances over difficult terrain, against enemy fire and penetrated the outer defenses of the SIEGFRIED LINE in two points. Captured HOTGEN (K-9128).

1st Infantry Division: Continued reconnaissance in force towards AACHEN (K-8443), meeting strong resistance and penetrating outer defenses of the WEST WALL.

4th Cavalry Group: Maintained contact with V Corps and advanced east to GERMAN border.

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Combat Team advanced at 0830 to road junction (K-805163) south of HERTOGENWALD (K-8020), then it moved, the 1st and 2nd battalions abreast through the forest to clean out the EUPEN- MONDSCHAU road (K-8026-K-9418). The road was cratered, blocked by trees, mined, and booby-trapped, and was cleared by 1800. The Combat Team then advanced to an area south of HOTGEN (K-9228).

The 47th Combat Team moved by the VERVIERS-EUPEN road to high ground east of EUPEN (K-8026), arriving by 1430.

The 60th Combat Team moved the bulk of its forces to an assembly area south of EUPEN. The 1st Battalion, however, assembled at HOCHAI (K-7610) for attachment to special task force, while G Company remained with Divisional reserve.

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3rd Armored Division

The combined operation of engineer demolitions and direct tank fire, supported by infantry and artillery, succeeded in effecting breaches of the outer defenses of the SIEGFRIED LINE.

Combat Command Boudinot encountered strong opposition of small arms, mortars, AT guns, concrete barriers, pillboxes, and artillery fire throughout the day. Task Force King breached the first defenses to advance to the road junction just southeast of SCHMIDTHOF (K-902327) and outposted the town. Task Force Lovelady likewise fought through heavy opposition to breach the line and advance to MULARTSHUTTE (K-929345), where it leaguered for the night. Meanwhile, the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion secured and outposted ROTGEN (K-9129) until relieved by elements of the 9th Infantry Division.

Task Force Doan of Combat Command Hickey continued pressure on the SIEGFRIED LINE throughout the day, against strong enemy defensive action. At the end of the period, the Task Force breached the crust of the Line west of SCHMIDTHOF (K-895335), and prepared to continue the advance the following day. Task Force Blanchard remained in assembly near EYNATTEN (K-8334).

1st Infantry Division

The 16th Combat Team was ordered to advance at 0800 to seize the ground east of AACHEN (K-8443). It found that its axis of advance along the right flank of the divisional zone of action was obstructed by roadblocks and blown bridges, and harrassed by artillery, mortar, and small arms fire. At 0910, I Company reported the friendly artillery, presumeably of the 3rd Armored Division, killed three, wounded 12, and knocked out 3 jeeps and one half-track. The 3rd Battalion in the lead was to go to a road junction (at K-8841) about 1 mile southeast of AACHEN, cutting the main road leading to the town in that vicinity, but it could only proceed slowly against pillboxes, mortars, artillery, and small arms fire. During the day six pillboxes were neturalized by the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, using direct fire from tanks and small arms fire. Personnel defending this area were in the trenches around the emplacement. Fields of fire were very poor. The 2nd Battalion, 26th Combat Team, was thereupon ordered to move up the 16th Combat Team's left flank to try to turn the enemy. This action was not consummated by the end of the period. The 2nd Battalion, 16th Combat Team, proceeded behind the 3rd Battalion with the mission of securing BRAND (K-8940).

The 26th Combat Team (less 2nd Battalion) relieved the 16th Combat Team at 1240. The 3rd Battalion proceeded on its mission in conjunction with the 16th Combat Team at 1700, while the 2nd Battalion was held up at VERRESBUSCH (K-8203149).

The 1st Battalion of the 18th Combat Team moved off at 0725 to drive north towards the city of AACHEN. It received fire throughout the morning and moved slowly towards its objective on the high wooded ground (K-8040) in the AACHEN STADT FOREST about 2 miles southwest of the city reaching there at 1300.

The 3rd Battalion began reconnaissance to the north, where its leading elements located an extensive mine field south of WOLFSHAAG just across the Dutch Border (K778409). The field was cleared for vehicles, and by 1300 the battalion was at WOLFHAAG (K779415), its objective.

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The 2nd Battalion, meanwhile, was held at the division's northern flank as a means of protection.

The 1st Reconnaissance Troop was ordered to screen to the north, contacting infantry elements of the 30th Division and the 125th Cavalry Squadron. It had advanced during the afternoon of 12 September through roadblocks and mines to reconnoiter LA PLANCK, HOLLAND, and then withdrew a short distance for the night. During 13 September it continued its mission, maintaining contact with the 18th Infantry Regiment and the 125th Cavalry Squadron.

4th Cavalry Group

Advance of the 4th Cavalry Group was hindered by blown bridges and heavy road blocks. It received artillery northeast of BUTENBACK (K913045), enemy tank fire near MURRINGEN (K981020), and small arms and artillery south of ELSENBORN (K925075). The 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion (105mm) fired 6 direct and 9 interdiction missions, expending 390 rounds. In the advance to the GERMAN border, contact with the 9th Infantry Division and elements of the V Corps was maintained.

Artillery

1st Division: Continued to support the advance of its division toward AACHEN. Fired 11 registration, 6 tank, 21 infantry and tank, 2 vehicle, 9 enemy gun, 2 infantry and 17 harassing missions. Rounds expended: 885.

9th Division: Supported the division in breaching the SIEGFRIED LINE, firing 2 counterbattery and 16 close support missions, and expending 645 rounds.

3rd Division: Supported its division by both direct and indirect fire as it moved through defenses of THE SIEGFRIED LINE.

Corps: Fired only registration and preparatory missions.

Anti-aircraft: Only D Battery, 474th AA[A] Battalion at LIEGE engaged a lonely enemy plane, claiming it probably destroyed.

Tank Destroyer: No activity reported.

Prisoners of War captured by Corps: 240.

14 SEPTEMBER 1944

VII Corps units advanced to within 3 kilometers of AACHEN (K-8443), penetrating the first line of defenses of the WEST WALL. Numberous road blocks, pillboxes, and minefields were encountered; enemy resistance varied greatly in intensity.

The enemy, aided by heavy fog in the morning, continued his delaying action. Roadblocks, pillboxes were covered by mortar and anti-tank fire, and heavy artillery fire of medium caliber was placed on the northern flank of the Corps. The tenacity of the enemy decreased during the day, and many pillboxes were found undefended with machine guns still in place. Anti-aircraft artillery was used against ground troops, while aggressive patrolling by tanks and infantry was encountered by units on the southern flank. Due to the weather no air support was available.

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14 September

SECRET

9th Infantry Division: Attacked at 0830 to the east against numerous protected road blocks and minefields.

3rd Armored Division: Attacked at 0830 and advanced slowly through first line of defenses of WEST WALL.

1st Infantry Division: Attacked at 0800 to the northeast against road blocks and pillboxes penetrating first line defenses of WEST WALL to within 3 kilometers of AACHEN (8443).

4th Cavalry Group: Forward elements patrolled within the western edges of the MONSCHAU FOREST and BUDHOLZ FOREST, reaching the general line KALTERHERBERG (K-9214), KRINKELTERWALD (E-0107) and HUNNINGEN (0000).

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Combat Team attacked at 0830 to the northeast, advancing in columns of battalions with the 1st Battalion in the lead, followed by the 3rd Battalion. Obstacles, mines, and boggy terrain held up the movement, while in the afternoon mortar, artillery, machine gun, and small arms fire came down upon the combat team. By evening a position near LAMMERSDORF (K-9626) was reached.

Meanwhile, the 60th Combat Team was ordered to move in behind the 39th to a new area near LAMMERSDORF (K-9626). March began at 1300, motorized elements at 1700. At 1745, K Company, reinforced with tanks and tank destroyers, was sent to rescue the 26th Field Artillery Battalion, which had gotten off the route and run into a strong enemy force. The remainder of the Combat Team closed in its area southeast of LAMMERSDORF at 2200. The 1st Battalion, reinforced, operated as a special task force to capture CAMP ELSENBORN (K-9008) and advance north to the vicinity of KALTERHERBERG (K-9214), where it halted.

The 47th Combat Team began its advance at 0830 northeast, in column of battalions in order, 1st, 3rd, 2nd battalions. At RJ K-920303, the 1st took left route and 3rd the right. The 1st Battalion was halted in the ZWEITALTER WALD at K-955336, due to a blown bridge. The 3rd Battalion advanced to a RJ in the FOREST ROTGEN (K-949305), where its reconnaissance platoon had engaged the enemy. In the ensuing skirmish, 40 prisoners were taken. The battalion then proceeded north, knocking out two anti-tank guns and losing one tank by mines, and reaching another location in the FORST ROTGEN (K-975320). The 2nd Battalion moved along the southern route to 966358, where a small enemy force was engaged and dispersed.

3rd Armored Division

During the night a bridge was constructed at MULARTSHUTTE (K-929344), permitting Task Force Lovelady of Combat Command Boudinot to move at 0800. Scattered resistance, road blocks, and craters hampered the advance, and at 1100 the unit was ordered to halt south of BREINIGERHEIDE (K-927374) in order to assist Task Force King. The advance was renewed at 1515, moving to a point east of BUSBACH (K-9440) by evening. Task Force King met heavy mortar and machine gun fire from obstacles south of SCHMIDTHOF (K-901330), not overcoming it until approximately 1400. It reached a point southwest of Task Force Lovelady (K-9337) just south of BREINIG. Upon the evacuation of Lt. Col. King, the unit became Task Force Mills.

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14 September

SECRET

The elements of Combat Command Hickey experienced considerable antitank, mortar, and small arms fire in their efforts to advance beyond their initial break of the SIEGFRIED LINE near NUTHEIM (K-887365). Further delay resulted from the time required the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment to clean out resistance on the flanks of the command. Task Force Blanchard came under heavy fire as it moved off at 1300, but advanced to EILENDORF about 2 miles due east of AACHEN (K-896435), where a destroyed underpass and blown bridge held it up. Task Force Doan on the left of the Combat Command's zone advanced against stubborn resistance and coiled for the night near EILENDORF (K-896435).

Task Force Hogan moved at 1400 to secure the Division's left flank and to cover the gap between the 3rd Armored and 1st Infantry Division. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion outposted ROTGEN (K-9129) until 1530, when it moved to the Division's left flank to conduct reconnaissance sweeps near EYNATTEN-(K-8334)- RAERAN- (K-8532)- WALHEIM (K-9036).

1st Infantry Division

The Division continued to attack northeast in a column of regiments to seize the high ground in the vicinity of AACHEN (K-8443), in conjuntion with the 3rd Armored Division.

The 16th Combat Team was ordered to attake at 0730 to continue penetration of the SIEGFRIED LINE and to seize the key roads southeast of AACHEN. Tank Destroyers and pole charges laid by engineers were helpful there in reducing the pillboxes and Dragon's Teeth in the line of advance.

The 1st Battalion led the action, moving northeast from EYNATTEN (K-8334), and then went east against enemy mortar fire and pillbox resistance. By evening it had reached a point four kilometers southeast of AACHEN and was still fighting towards itsobjective.

The 2nd Battalion on the right flank encountered machine gun and mortar fire from the east. On the main north-south road and approximately 2 kilometers west of OBR. -FORSTBACH (K-856375) the battalion encountered Dragon's Teeth at 1100. By 1500 it had pushed north to lead the Combat Team at a point three kilometers southeast of AACHEN.

Meanwhile, the 3rd Battalion foutht against pillbox resistance throughout the day to reach a point to the rear and between the two leading battalions.

The 3rd Battalion neturalized two fortified houses and 12 pillboxes with tank and small arms fire. The 2nd Battalion reduced 11 pillboxes by the same method. These defensive works were in the outer zone of the SIEGFRIED LINE.

The 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 26th Combat Team moved north in the center. The 2nd battalion on the rights encountered road blocks of trees along its route and moved on foot, while the Engineers removed the blocks. The 3rd Battalion met tanks and infantry, and advanced to the vicinity of BRAND (K-824387). The 1st Battalion remained attached to the 3rd Armored Division.

The 18th Combat Team was ordered to move north, at the same time be prepared to repell counter-attacks and protect the divisional left flank. Enemy resistance in the form of pillboxes held up the movement. The 1st Battalion attacked east and then south in order to eliminate resistance in the AACHEN

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TUNNEL (K-815393), while elements of the 2nd Battalion came at the other side, from the southeast. By evening the enemy in the tunnel had not been reduced.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Group continued advance in its zone of action and protected the right flank of the Corps. Many road blocks were encountered throughout the period, which in addition to heavy fog, retarded rapid movement. Troop "A", 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron drove enemy consisting of 4 Mark IV tanks and a platoon of infantry from ROCHERATH (K-980050) at 2100 after a sharp conflict. Patrols advancing into the BUCHOLZ FOREST east of RUNNINGEN (KP-9700) met pillboxes and heard enemy tank movement. The 87th Armored Field Artillery (attached) expended 472 rounds in 1 interdiction and 2 direct support missions.

Artillery

1st Division: Continued to support the advance of the division toward AACHEN. Fired 8 registration, 25 enemy gun, 8 counter attack, 12 infantry, 9 vehicle, tank, and infantry, 4 preparation, 2 railroad train, 4 strong point, 7 harassing, and 4 screening missions. Rounds expended: 1770.

9th Division: Supported the advance of the division.

3rd Armored Division: Continued support of the division in breaching the SIEGFRIED LINE.

Corps: 142nd Field Artillery Group supported the Corps with long range fire.

Anti-aircraft: No action for the period.

Tank Destroyers: No action.

Prisoners captured by the Corps: 464.

15 SEPTEMBER 1944

VII Corps troops advanced south and east of AACHEN (K-8443) against determined resistance and penetrated the SIEGFRIED LINE at three points. The advance Command Post of the Corps opened at 1800 in the town of KORNELIMUNSTER (K-903378), being the first Corps Command Post in GERMANY.

The enemy fought stubbornly from as many pillboxes as he could find personnel to man. The 35th Infantry Division, and the 9th and 116th Panzer Divisions began a movement to take over the second line of defense north and east of DUREN (F-1246). Heavy 105mm artillery from an estimated two battalions fell south of AACHEN throughout the day. On the south flank of the Corps zone long range artillery was met by the 4th Cavalry Group, while Nebelwerfer fire was encountered from the vicinity of HAAREN (K-8745). From 1400 to 1700 approximately 40 Me 109's flew reconnaissance missions over the Corps front line. Armored forces met heavy enemy anti-tank fire, both 75 and 88mm, southeast and east of AACHEN throughout the day.

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SECRET

9th Infantry Division: Attacked at 0830 to the northeast, east, and southeast, meeting heavy resistance. 47th Infantry passed through main defense of SIEGFRIED LINE, 39th Infantry advanced east into ROTGENWALD to the SIEGFRIED LINE, and 69th Infantry made little advance southeast of MONSCHAU (K-9418).

3rd Armored Division: Attacked at 0800 to northeast against stubborn resistance from prepared defenses. Advance was hindered by blown bridges and difficult terrain. Both Combat Commands breached SIEGFRIED LINE, Task Force Lovelady at 1400 and Task Force Doan at 1415.

1st Infantry Division: Attacked at 0800 to northeast against fortified positions, road blocks, and tank and artillery fire. 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, in conjunction with Task Force Doan, 3rd Armored Division, penetrated the SIEGFRIED LINE at 1415.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued reconnaissance in MONSCHAU FOREST (F-0115) and FORST BUCHHOLZ (L-0200), encountering road blocks and small groups of enemy. Maintained contact with elements of 4th Infantry Division.

9th Infantry Division

The 60th Combat Team, less 1st Battalion, attacked at 0830 with the mission of taking MONSCHAU (K-9418) and HOFEN (K-9516) and contacting the special Task Force composed of the 1st Battalion and attachements. Moving in column of battalions, with the 3rd Battalion leading, the Combat Team made good progress until encountering enemy at MUTSENICH (K-9219). Progress continued slowly against small arms and mortar fire, and at 2100 the advance was halted for the night, with the 3rd Battalion on the high ground south of MONSCHAU and the 2nd Battalion in the town. All bridges had been destroyed, and difficulty was experienced in getting supplies to forward troops.

The 39th Combat Team, in the center of the divisional zone, renewed its attack at 0830, the 3rd Battalion pushing east and 1st Battalion north. Enemy opposition near LAMMERSDORF (K-9626), consisting of machine gun, mortar, and anti-aircraft fire strengthened. At 1130 the 2nd Battalion was sent on a wide envelopment to the left; however, it came under fire as soon as it turned to the south again. It captured three 20mm guns and one pillbox, but was unsuccessful in closing the pocket in front of the 1st Battalion.

The 3rd Battalion, 47th Combat Team became involved in a fire fight with approximately 350 enemy who wandered into its position. The situation cleared at 0930. In the meantime, at 0900, the 2nd Battalion was attacked from the north and northeast by a tank and undetermined number of infantry. At 1100 the 3rd Battalion moved north towards VICHT (K-9639) to assist the 1st Battalion. By 1300 the enemy efforts decreased; 1 mark V tank was destroyed and 100 prisoners taken. At 1600, with the 1st Battalion on the left and the 3rd Battalion on the right, the Combat Team moved five kilometers north with the mission of outflanking VICHT (K-9639) to the east. Approximately 400 prisoners were taken during the day.

Special Task Force (1st Battalion, 60th Combat Team and attachments) remained in its previous position, near HALTERHERBERG (K-9214).

In persuance of its mission, the 3rd Armored Division breached the main defenses of the SIEGFRIED LINE and established deep bridgeheads of infantry and tank units.

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4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Group continued its reconnaissance east. Cloudy weather and heavy ground fog hindered visibility. Roads other than improved highways were impassable for heavy vehicles and numerous tree road blocks were encountered on main roads. The only permanetly organized positions encountered were concrete antitank obstacles between F-029031 and F-030025 in the BUCHOLZ FOREST. The woods contained enemy infantry. At the end of the period the Command Post was at BUTGENBACH (K-9104), while the leading units were in a crescent between KRINKETT (K-9704) and BULLINGEN (K-9502).

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 6 registration, 8 strong point, 13 close support, 3 mortar, 4 railroad trains, and 22 counterbattery missions. Rounds expended: 1155.

9th Division: Continued support of division, firing 2 tank and 64 close support missions, expending 3298 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Continued support of division, firing direct and indirect on pill boxes, strong points, infantry, and batteries.

Corps: Battery B, 991st Field Artillery Battalion of 155mm self-propelled guns, was attached to the 9th Infantry Division on 14 September for the specific purpose of destroying concrete pillboxes, employing the use of the 155mm gun (SP) M-12 in direct fire missions on the SIEGFRIED LINE. The Battery was divided into platoons and attached to the 39th, 47th RCT's. The Battalion, less Battery B, remained attached to the 3rd Armored Division, and in addition to normal missions employed direct fire, by single gun, on pillboxes on several occasions. In both Divisions the guns were brought to the front to employ direct laying only after reconnaissance had been made in each case.

The M-51 fuse was used in adjustment and the concrete-piercing fuse T-105 used for effect. It was noticed that the ballistic properties of the two fuzes did not vary appreciably at the ranges fired.

On 15 September the following missions were executed: 16 rounds of HE, fuze T-105 were fired at 900 yards range at a pillbox target which resulted in the box being neuteralized. Another mission on a similiar target with the same ammunition and fuze at 1100 yards range produced similiar results with the expenditure of only 10 rounds. A third mission at 1800 yards in which only 8 rounds of HE were fired piereed the pillbox and neutralized it. In a fourth mission in which only 4 rounds were fired at 200 yards range hits were obtained but no penetration.

Antiaircraft: No action for the period.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Battalion fired 38 rounds 3" AP and 66 rounds 3" HE, destroying 1 SP gun, 1 vehicle, 1 AT gun, 4 pillboxes, and 1 MG nest.

899th TD Battalion fired 73 rounds 3" AP and 124 rounds 3" HE, destroying 1 vehicle, 1 AT gun, 10 pillboxes, and 3 MG nests.

Number of prisoners captured by the Corps: 571.

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16 SEPTEMBER 1944

Throughout the VII Corps zone of action limited advances were made and all positions were held. Positions south and southeast of AACHEN (K-8443) were consolidated, while advances were made to the east of AACHEN, seizing BUSBACH (K-9240) and the high ground north of ELLENDORF (K-8843).

Fighting stubbornly from pillbox defenses, the enemy, supported by heavy 105 and 150mm artillery fire, continued his defense of the WEST WALL. Each enemy pillbox, operating generally as an individual unit, had to be reduced by artillery and cleaned out. Precautions had to be taken to prevent infiltration and reoccupation of positions, and certain pillboxes were reduced by being burried by bull-dozers.

Antitank fire, 75 and 88mm, met advancing armor throughout the day. An estimated five enemy batteries of 105 and 155mm fired on the northern half of the Corps zone, while an estimated three batteries from the east fired on the southern zone of action.

Forces of the 9th Tactical Air Command actively supported the Corps, destroying 1 locomotive, 15 guns, 12 enemy aircraft, 14 motor transports, 12 armored vehicles, 3 loaded personnel carriers, 3 bridges, 6 oil cars, and losing 3 aircraft. 5 motor transports were probably destroyed, while 7 enemy aircraft, 15 motor transports, and 12 armored vehicles were damaged.

9th Infantry Division: Continued advance northeast against pillboxes. Continued mopping up of scattered groups of enemy east and south of MUTZEN (K-9128).

3rd Armored Division: Attacked northeast clearing BUSBACH (K-9240) of enemy and advancing to HAHN (K-9243). Stubborn resistance from enemy civilians and soldiers was encountered in BUSBACH.

1st Infantry Division: Consolidated position South and Southeast of AACHEN (K8443), and advanced northeast to seize high ground north of ELLENDORF (K8843), encountering small arms and machine gun fire from pillboxes.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to protect right flank of Corps and maintain contact with elements of V Corps.

9th Infantry Division

The 3rd Battalion, 60th Combat Team, attacked at 0830 with the mission of taking HOFEN (K9516). It made slow progress to a position north of the town, and at 1630 renewed the attacks with tanks and infantry against 20mm, tank, machine gun, and mortar fire. The Battalion reached its objective at 2000. The 1st Battalion, acting as a special task force, assisted in the capture of HOFEN. The 2nd Battalion remained in a defensive position near MONSCHAU (K9418).

The 39th Combat Team continued its attack at 0830, running immediately into machine gun and mortar fire. By considerable maneuver the 1st and 2nd Battalions made steady progress in the vicinity of LAMMERSDORF (K9626). Company I, supported by SP 155mm guns succeeded in getting past the dragons-teeth just north of LAMMERSDORF (K9727). A total of 12 pillboxes were reduced.

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16 September

SECRET

The 47th Combat Team continued on mission of clearing enemy resistance between ZWEIFALL (K-9536) and VICHT (K-9639), by attacking the fortifications in this area from the road, and continuing attack to the northeast. The 2nd Battalion moved northwest to ZWEIFALL and then north to VICHT, reaching its objective and taking 75 prisoners. 1st Battalion attacked to the northwest, cleaning out the woods and capturing MAUSBACH (K-9741), reaching objective at 2000 and taking 100 prisoners. The 3rd Battalion attacked to north and northwest, clearing out wooded area and capturing SCHEVENHUTTE (K-0042) at 18D. The 3rd Battalion attempted to push on to GRESSENICH (K-9842) but was held up by strong resistance outside of the town. At 1700 the Combat Team was ordered to clear out woods northwest of ZWEIFALL, which was completed by 2000, by elements of the 1st Battalion and the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon.

3rd Armored Division

Approximately two kilometers south of HAMM (K-9344) elements of Combat Command Hickey experienced extreme difficulty in exploting the break in the SIEGFRIED LINE, which had been accomplished the day before. An attempt to put armor through the initial breach made by infantry was abandoned, when enemy artillery opened up on the breached area. Six tanks were lost in one spot, and the attack was halted until the morning of 16 September. Throughout the morning, the Combat Command held its position, while the 16th Infantry, 1st Division, moved up on its left flank, and its own infantry attempted to clean out the enemy across the barrier. This plan was likewise abandoned at 1300, becusse of pressure on both flanks of the breach. Nevertheless the 1st Battalion of the 36th Armored Infantry reached the vicinity of HAMM, where the enemy had good observation for artillery fire. The 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, which was attached from the 9th Infantry Division, moved in the afternoon into STOLBERG (K-9441), which it was necessary to clean out enemy resistance before proceeding towards the original objective of ESCHWEILLER (K-9748).

Combat Command Boudinot, on the right flank of the Divisional zone, was ordered to move straight north. Its infantry encountered heavy fire, but maintained its position northeast of MAUSBACH (K-9741). However, it could not disengage to move on STOLBERG. Its armor likewise came under enemy fire throughout the day. Enemy tanks were active, and at 1700 approximately 7 were destroyed by air.

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion was ordered to reconnoiter and clean up the town of BUSBACH (K-928404), but small arms and anti-tank fire made progress slow. Efforts to by-pass the resistance failed, and at 1225 the divisional reserve sent Infantry and Tank Destroyers to clean out the town and move north to the SIEGFRIED LINE. The remainder of the reserve continued to outpost KORNELIMUNSTER (K-9037), the Corps Command Post.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Infantry Division continued to hold approximately the same positions it had taken the previous day. Enemy infiltrations were prevented, while elements of the division received artillery, Neberwerfer, and machine gun fire. At 0100 K Company reported ten flying bombs passing overhead.

The 16th Infantry varied its position but little on the right flank of the divisional zone of action. The three battalions were holding firm in a triangle area approximately four kilometers directly east of AACHEN.

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Direct tank fire and small arms fire was employed by the 1st Battalion in neutralizing 12 pillboxes in the SIEGFRIED LINE. Each box was defended by 1 NCO and 9 men. In some cases it was reported that the emplacements were so well camouflaged that it was at first impossible to locate them. Machine gun fire was directed toward the position from which the German fire was coming. When ricochets were observed, troops knew they had hit an emplacement. This was followed by 1 round of HE fire from tanks which blew off the camouflaged material and exposed the pillbox.

The 26th Infantry remained in its area southeast of AACHEN, and limited its activity to patrols and artillery action by the 32nd and 266th Field Artillery Battalions.

The 18th Infantry on the left flank of the division continued to probe the enemy. The 3rd Battalion on the north reported that it could go into Holland, but that it encountered enemy fire immediately on crossing the border. The regiment planned at 1600 to use close-in mortar fire and behind it artillery fire to disperse the enemy, without having to withdraw its own troops. The success of this technique was not ascertained before the end of the day.

4th Cavalry Group

Heavy ground fog and road blocks consisting of mined and booby-trapped trees made progress of the 4th Cavalry Group extremely slow. Enemy resistance by infantry and anti-tank gun at cross road LOSHEIMERGRABEN (L-009990) was only reduced late in the afternoon. A counterattack by an estimated company of infantry was beaten off prior to dark, while at the same time another enemy counterattack in like force 10 kilometers north in the MONSCHAU FOREST (F-002093) but was repulsed. The concrete obstacles discovered the previous day in the BUCHOLZ FOREST were probed. The 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion expended 415 rounds (105mm), while the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion expended 51 rounds (3" HE).

Artillery

1st Infantry Division Artillery: Fired 6 registration, 2 rocket gun, 3 vehicle and guns, 2 strong point, 5 machine gun and mortar, 3 tank, 13 enemy troop, 13 counterbattery, 7 harassing, and 8 miscellaneous missions. Rounds expended: 1604.

9th Infantry Division Artillery: Fired 2 registration, 9 tank, 1 counterbattery, 1 barracks, 7 strong point, and 27 direct support and 12 direct fire missions. Rounds expended: 2113.

3rd Armored Division Artillery: Continued support of division with direct and indirect fire on pillboxes, strong points, and infantry. During the night the artillery was massed on and broke up an enemy counterattack in the vicinity of STOLBERG (K-9442).

Corps: Fired 4 registration, 6 strong point, 9 reinforcing, 3 destruction, 4 counterbattery, and 4 interdiction missions. Rounds expended: 319.

In continuing to employ the 155mm gun, self-propelled M-12 on direct fire missions on the SIEGFRIED LINE using the T-105 concrete-piercing fuze with HE ammunition, Battery B, 991st Field Artillery Battalion, penetrated a pillbox at 1500 yards using only 7 round on the 1st mission fired this day. The first ranging round of HE, fuze M-51, was a direct hit. Fuze CP T-105 was then used

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1000. 75 and 88mm antitank fire was met by armor near STOLBERG (K-930435). Self-propelled guns, 75mm, were active in the wooded area north of LAMMERSDORF. The enemy fired upon an American loudspeaker in front of the 1st Division, which was calling for the surrender of AACHEN. Armored reconnaissance and aircraft of the IX Tatical Air Force cut railroad tracks in 3 places in the neighborhood of LANGERWEHE (F-030475), destroying 4 buildings, 1 locomotive, 2 transports, and damageing 10 railroad cars, in support of VII Corps units.

9th Infantry Division: The 47th Infantry successfully repelled determined counterattacks, holding all positions. 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments continued to clean out their areas, meeting decreasing resistance.

3rd Armored Division: Limited advances were made to the north against heavy resistance of all types. Task Force Lovelady was heavily conterattacked north of MAUSBACH (K-9740), suffered considerable losses, and withdrew about 1000 yards, but later regained all lost ground.

1st Infantry Division: Held positions against heavy enemy counterattacks.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued aggressive reconnaissance and patrolling of MONSCHAU FOREST and BUCHOLZ FOREST, meeting considerable resistance southeast of HOFEN (K-9516).

9th Infantry Division

At 0030 the 3rd Battalion of the 60th Infantry attacked by tanks and infantry which penetrated to the center of the battalion position. At first light enemy forces caused considerable confusion, inflicting casualties, and capturing and destroying some equipment. The enemy was finally driven off by1100, and the battalion reorganized to hold its former position. At 0830 the 1st Battalion attacked to the east towards ALZEN (K-9515) but was soon pinned down by grazing fire from pillboxes to its front and flanks. An attempt to envelop from the north was broken up by heavy mortar fire, and the battalion held its ground the remainder of the day. The 2nd Battalion in position around MONSCHAU (K-9418) was repeatedly engaged in fire fights with enemy infiltrations from the northeast. Company E, attached to the tank destroyer battalion in divisional reserve, was given the mission of clearing and protecting the line of communications to the 3rd Battalion. It moved south on the east side of the road to HOFEN (K-9516), reducing several pillboxes and capturing 41 prisoners. Throughout the day, the entire regimental area was harassed by long-range artillery and small arms fire. Location at end of the day was west of BERESCHEID (F-040156), just north of MONSCHAU (K-941189), near KRINKELT (K-975355) and HOFEN (K-950165).

The 3rd Battalion of the 39th Infantry received an enemy attack at daybreak but successfully repelled it by 0800. The combat team proceeded to clean out resistance to the north. The 2nd Battalion pinched out the 1st Battalion, and then the 2nd and 3rd Battalions pushed southeast. The 2nd Battalion reduced a number of pillboxes and took several prisoners. In an attempt to take high ground to the east, 3rd Battalion was held up by machine gun and mortar fire and was unable to advance. It fought off continued attempts at infiltration around the right (south) flank. At the end of the day it was in the vicinity of LAMMERSDORF (9626).

All battalions of the 47th Infantry felt enemy counterattacks. At daylight the 3rd Battalion in the FOREST WENAU northwest of GEY (F-005422), received an

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with 6 rounds. The third round pierced the pillbox. Examination revealed that the pillbox was reinforced concrete 7 feet thick. Two rounds had penetrated and exploded inside, Killing all personnel and destroying the equipment.

A similiar mission was fired at a stone building at 3000 yards using 1 round of HE with Fuze M-51, followed by 6 fused with concrete-piercing T-105 with the rounds exploding inside the building. Subsequent missions of 10 rounds at 600 yards, 8 and 7 rounds at 800 yards, were fired with the pillbox being neutralized in each case. Another mission was fired using 4 rounds of HE with fuze M-51 followed by 8 rounds of the concrete-piercing T-105 at 200 yards. Examination of the pillbox showed the vizible target (and point of impact) to be a 14 inch steel door which closed like an interrupted-screw breech block. Of 12 rounds fired 8 hit the door. No penetration was made. Occupants surrendered after 12 rounds had been fired. All 25 Germans taken from the pillbox were suffering from shock, 7 were liter cases, and two others had both eardrums broken. They said that all equipment and armament inside had been damaged by the concussion of the 1st round.

Antiaircraft: No action.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Battalion: Fired 86 rounds 3" AP and 30 rounds 3" HE, knocking out 1 Mk V, 1 Mk IV, 2 88mm AT guns, and 5 pillboxes.

703rd TD Battalion: Fired 35 rounds 3" AP and 90 rounds 3" HE, knocking out 1 vehicle, 3 pillboxes, and 2 enemy observation posts.

899th TD Battalion: Fired 141 rounds 3" AP and 185 rounds 3" HE direct, knocking out 1 Mk VI tank, 1 SP gun, 2 vehicles, 1 AT gun, 23 pillboxes, and 5 machine gun nests. Captured 15 prisoners. B Company fired 214 rounds 3" HE indirect harassing fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 511.

17 SEPTEMBER 1944

Throughout their zones of action, the divisions of the VII Corps repulsed determined counterattacts on the part of the enemy. The 47th Infantry, 9th Division, Task Force Lovelady, 3rd Armored Division, and 16th Infantry, 1st Division bore the brunt of the hostile attacks, and successfully stopped all efforts to drive them from their position across the SIEGFRIED LINE.

Reinforced by the arrival of elements of the 12th Infantry Division from east Prussia, of which the 27th and 89th Regiments have been identified, the enemy, beginning at dawn, attacked along the north of the Corps zone of action to regain the line of fortifications of the SIEGFRIED LINE. The bulk of enemy pressure, supported by the three battalions of 105 and 150mm artillery and groups of tanks and self-propelled guns, was directed on our position east of GROSSKMICH (K942184). Heavy fighting continued until 1400, when the enemy became less aggressive, and at the end of the period only light enemy artillery fire and patrolling were reported. On the southern sector of the Corps, in the vicinity of MONSCHAU (K-942184) and LANGERSDORF (K-960268) strong enemy action was brought against our movements to the northeast.

Intense anti-aircraft fire of heavy caliber came from near GROSSKMICH at

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attack from the north and east, while the 2nd Battalion, at KREWINKEL (K-982411) was attacked from MAUSBACH (K-9711). The enemy pressed its action with infantry, tanks, and artillery. The 1st Battalion, in the meantime, maneuvered to attack northeast between the 2nd and 3rd Battalions. At 1400 the enemy drove between MAUSBACH and KREWINKEL (K-9841), around the flank of the 2nd Battalion, while the 1st Battalion was being attacked directly south from GRESSENICH (K-9942). At 1700 elements of Task Force Lovelady, 3rd Armored Division, came to the assistance of the 2nd Battalion and advanced on the road northeast out of MAUSBACH, coming under heavy fire. The Task Force, however, was forced to withdraw. At the end of the period, all battalions were in approximately the same position as throughout the day and were holding their positions under continued fire.

3rd Armored Division

On the right flank of the 3rd Armored Division's zone, Task Force Lovelady, Combat Command Boudinot, renewed its attack at 0800, encountering strong enemy tank, anti-tank, and artillery during its slow advance throughout the morning. At 1300 it received counterattacks on both flanks and was compelled to withdraw 1000 yards, to a small wooded area bout 2 kilometers west of GRESSENICH (K-965428), whereupon it reorganized and dug in and prepared to hold that position throughout the night. Task Force Mills, Combat Command Boudinot, attacked at 0800 to the west towards STOLBERG (K-9442) encountering strong opposition throughout the day. By evening it held the high ground at K-953423 east of the town.

Combat Command Hickey was ordered to attack towards the Divisional objective of EACHWEILER (K-9648) during the morning, but was unable to move forwards because of enemy observation of the route of advance. The 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry, holding high ground near HAMM (K-920439) received a strong enemy counterattack during the early morning, and with the aid of artillery support repulsed the enemy without losing ground. At the close of the day the Combat Command was at (K-905425)-(K-921438), on the secondary road running southwest from HAMM, having made no appreciable gain against the enemy.

The divisional reserve continued to be in the BUSBACH (k9340) area, with the most advanced elements just south of the SIEGFRIED LINE at 928415, the mud n crossroads 1 kilometer north of BUSHBACH.

1st Infantry Division

In a day filled with counterattacks and severe fighting, the 1st Infantry Division held its ground everywhere in its zone of action and in addition made advances toward the town of STOLBERG (K9442).

The 1st Battalion of the 16th Infantry was the first to receive indications of an approaching enemy counterattack. Throughout the early hours of the day, enemy patrolling increased, and at 0600 the enemy attacked around the right flank of the 1st Battalion against E and F Companies. When this proved futile, attempts were made between G and K Companies at 0730. The enemy kept coming throughout the morning, although air and artillery support were proving effective. By noon the counterattack had spend itself, and two hours later elements of the 1st Battalion were working north and east in the direction of STOLBERG, and finished the day in positions about 1 kilometer southwest of HAMM. The 2nd Battalion was around the RR tunnel east of EILENDORF (k892448)-(903435) and the 3rd Battalion (K-880427-886442) just south of EILENDORF.

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The 26th Infantry remained in the center of the division zone, consolidating its position and prepared to assist the 16th Infantry.

On the left flank of the 18th Infantry maintained one company as the screen in front of its 3rd Battalion and withdrew the rest to be ready to assist the 16th Infantry if necessary; this was accomplished by 1430. Otherwise, the regiment engaged in combat patrolling throughout its area south of AACHEN, and along the northern area of the AACHEN STADT FOREST, at WOLFSHAAG, STEINEBRUCK and southeastward. (K8041, 8239, 8338, 7740, 7842).

Indicative of the type of fighting in which the 1st Infantry Division was engaged from 13 to 17 September was the fact that the 16th and 18th Infantry Battalions captured in this period 87 pillboxes and occupied 38 more without opposition. Direct fire from tanks, M-10 Tank Destroyers, demolition charges, rifle grenades, hand grenades, and small arms fire were employed to reduce the enemy position.

4th Cavalry Group

Heavy road blocks, consisting of trees and mines, delayed progress of all units, with sounds indicating countinued construction of road blocks by enemy. The 4th Squadron repulsed a counterattack by an estimated two companies, while the 24th Squadron received small arms fire from all road blocks encountered. The 87th Armored Field Artillery fired 16 missions, expending 691 rounds. At the end of the period the forward units were fanned in a crescent from BUILDINGEN (K9502) northeast to the FRANKENTER WALD (F0007), while patrols continued to probe the MONSCHAU and BUCHOLZ FORESTS to the north and south respectively.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division Artillery: This was the most active day of the campaign to date. Of particular interest were the following mission: Counterattack on the 16th Infantry effectively broken; 7 enemy guns located from a captured map were neutralized; gas dump, AA gun, and heavy gun emplacement located from another captured map were fired on; and enemy columns moving northeast from AACHEN were interdicted. 226 missions were fired and 4734 rounds expended. Missions fired were: 40 infantry, 11 counterattacks, 16 guns, 22 vehicles, 24 tanks, 32 interdiction, 6 mortars, 6 assembly areas, 18 divisional artillery concentrations, 31 miscellaneous.

9th Infantry Division Artillery: Fired 8 tank, 1 pillbox, 4 registration, 1 barracks, 5 counterbattery and 95 close support missions. Rounds expended: 4792.

3rd Armored Division Artillery: Continued close support of division.

Continuing their experimental firing with the 155mm gun, self-propelled, M-12, the 991st Field Artillery Battalion fired two missions using the T-105 concrete-piercing fuze. The first mission was at a pillbox at 1000 yards range and only 2 rounds were used to destroy it. The other mission was also at a pillbox target, range 800 yards, and after 2 rounds the enemy vacated the box.

Antiaircraft: 109th AAA Group. 6 enemy planes engaged. No claims. The First United States Army announced that the 109th AAA Group was the 1st AAA Group Headquarters in the First Army to operate on German soil.

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Tank Destroyers: 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Fired 37 3" AP and 94 3" HE direct, knocking out 1 antitank gun, 5 pillboxes, and 5 machine gun nests. B Company fired 100 rounds 3" HE on ROLLESTROICH. Results unknown.

At 0001, 17 September 1944, the VII Corps changed from "B" to "A" time.

Prisoners of War captured by VII Corps: 388.

18 SEPTEMBER 1944

All attacks in the VII Corps zone were repulsed, positions improved and HOFEN (K-9516) - ALZEN (K-9515), and MAUSBACH (K-9740) - DIEPLINCHEN (K-9641) areas cleared out, and the factory section of STOLBERG (K-9242), which had been transformed into a fortress by the enemy, was occupied.

Having been repulsed in his efforts to regain positions in the SIEGFRIED LINE, the enemy returned to the defense during the period. Heavy artillery and mortar fire was placed on our forward positions along the Corps front and strong patrolling activity carried out by the enemy along the north flank of the Corps. Our patrols, which worked their way into the outskirts of AACHEN without contact at dawn, met fire from the first line of buildings in the city at 1800 hours. Strong anti-tank fire was met in the vicinity of STOLBERG (K-9343) and strong enemy probing forces were active east of GRESSENICH (K-987427). Along the south flank of the Corps, determined enemy resistance was met in the vicinity of ALZEN.

Heavy enemy artillery fire fell during the night in the 9th Division zone, and the 2nd Battalion of the 47th Infantry was forced to withdraw 1000 yards south from their positions, southwest of GRESSENICH. The area to the east of this town was heavily patrolled by the enemy.

Due to poor visibility and inclement weather, no support from the IX Tactical Air Command was available for the Corps troops during the period.

9th Infantry Division: ALZEN and HOFEN were occupied by the 1st Battalion of the 60th Infantry. The 39th Infantry continued mopping up pillboxes and scattered resistance east of ROTGEN (K-9028), and the 47th Infantry remained in position, consolidating defenses.

3rd Armored Division: While Combat Command Hickey remained in position, Combat Command Boudinot, reinforced by Task Force Hogan, attacked northeast against STOLBERG from the east and cleaned up enemy resistance in MAUSBACH (K-9740) and secured DIEPLINCHEN (K-9641).

1st Infantry Division: Consolidated positions and the 1st Battalion of the 16th Infantry took the factory area of STOLBERG (K-9242). Patrols which were sent into AACHEN (K-8343) from the south and east encountered little opposition. A small enemy attack was repulsed.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol right flank of Corps and maintain contact with the 4th Infantry Division, V Corps. Reduced enemy road blocks and was in contact with the enemy at dark.

9th Infantry Division

Enemy pressure slackened all along the Division front. Very heavy fire was received in the 47th Infantry zone and the 2nd Battalion forced to withdraw about 1000 yards south, southwest of GRESSENICH (K987427), which it attacked to regain

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The remainder of the 47th consolidated their positions, while the 39th Infantry attacked to reduce pillboxes in the LAMMERSDORF area (K-9727), and the 60th Infantry was heavily engaged in the HOFEN-ALZEN (K-9516-K9515) area all day, capturing the latter town.

The 39th Infantry attacked at 0800 with the 3rd Battalion on the right and the 2nd Battalion on the left. The 2nd Battalion reduced 7 pillboxes and took a number of prisoners. The 3rd Battalion advanced Company L to 975260, below LAMMERSDORF. Company K was unable to advance as the gap, cleared of mines by engineers during the night, was remined and a knocked out tank blocked the gap. The 1st Battalion moved to the vicinity of K-9835, southwest of WENAU, closing in positions there at 2030, leaving A Company to cover road blocks in the vicinity of K9831, east of ROETEN. Final positions of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions were north of and in the immediate vicinity of LAMMERSDORF, respecitvely K975280 and K976270. A total of 11 pillboxes were reduced during the period.

At 0130 hours the 3rd Battalion and A Company of the 47th Infantry reported an attack from the vicinity of GRESSENICH (K-9842), but by 0338 reported the situation was fairly quiet with no loss of ground except I Company's road block. The 2nd Battalion received heavy artillery fire during the night and on order withdrew approximately 1000 meters south to get out of the impact area and reorganize, leaving patrols with machine guns to cover the old positions. At day light all units consolidated positions and the 1st Battalion extended its line to the east, taking over the 2nd Battalion's former positions. The 2nd Battalion then moved to positions on the left flank of the Regiment on the commanding ground south and southeast of MAUSBACH (K-9640). Units spent the remainder of the day strengthening positions, while under continual mortar and artillery fire. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion was southeast of MAUSBACH in the vicinity of K-985411-995418, the 2nd Battalion was south of MAUSBACH at K-973405-978406, and the 3rd Battalion southeast of GRESSENICH in the vicinity of F-002425-009417.

The 60th Infantry continued the attack to the south to capture ALZEN (K-9515). With attached tanks and TDs, but less Company B, the 1st Battalion moved north and then southeast to be in position for attack. After a 10 minute artillery preparation the attack jumped off at 0920 with the 1st Battalion making the main effort on the right and the 3rd Battalion covering the left flank from left rear. The Combat Team approached the enemy fortifications from the rear and brought down heavy fire on all targets, making good progess, and at 1600 hours ALZEN was taken. By 1830 hours the objective was fully organized for defense. In the course of the action 154 prisoners were taken. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion was west of the town at (K-955157), the 2nd Battalion northwest of MONSCHAU (K-940194-947178), and the 3rd Battalion at HOFEN (K-955165-958161).

3rd Armored Division

Task Force Hogan of the Division Reserve was ordered to move around the right flank of Combat Command Boudinot and attack with the mission of securing the high ground in the vicinity of DUFFENTER (K-9543) and to secure the right flank of Combat Command Boudinot. The Task Force advanced to the vicinity of DIEPENLINCHEN (K-966416) where heavy resistance was encountered, and the Task Force was ordered to clean out the enemy in the town before proceeding. Considerable enemy pressure was encountered and heavy fighting resulted. By the

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close of the period Task Force Hogan had secured the town and was in position on its northern edge. Combat Command Boudinot had been ordered to remain in position until the high ground in the vicinity of DUFFENTER (K-946436) was secured and consequently remained in position throughout the day under heavy enemy pressure. Task Force Mills improved positions by securing the high ground about 1 kilometer southeast of DUFFENTER. Final positions of Combat Command Boudinot were in the same general area southeast of STOLBERG with Task Force Mills at (K-956422) east of DUFFENTER and Task Force Lovelady at (K-965426) just to the south, above MAUSBACH.

Combat Command Hickey consolidated positions throughout the day and conducted patrolling. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion secured the town of BUSBACH (K-9340) and conducted patrolling to the north of that town. Efforts to move vehicles forward brought heavy AT and artillery fire and resulted in the loss of two armored cars and 1 attached tank destroyer. Other elements of the Division Reserve maintained road blocks and defensive positions in the area of BUSBACH-KORNELIMUNSTER (K-9340-9138) throughout the period.

1st Infantry Division

All during the night the 16th Infantry received heavy shelling. At 0120 the area in rear of the 2nd Battalion, which was occupied by the Chemical Company, was hit by enemy artillery, causing a number of casualties. By 0410 the the 1st and 2nd Battalion were both under heavy enemy fire and the 3rd Battalion reported that enemy self-propelled guns were firing in their area. By daylight all units were returning the enemy's sporadic small arms and artillery fire. Later the 16th Infantry reported "indications of a small scale counterattacks have cooled off". By 0900 the 16th Infantry was maintaining extensive patrols to keep contact with the enemy.

In the afternoon the 1st Battalion with a small detachment from Combat Command Hickey, pushed forward from the EILENDORFER WALD (K-9244) and attacked east toward the factory (western) district of STOLBERG (K-9242) against intense machine gun fire. Although the factory area was a virtual fortress and plants turned into strong points, A and B Companies lead an advance in the face of heavy fire that resulted in clearing out this section. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion was only 500 yards from VERLAUTENHEIDE (886457). Final positions at the close of the period were as follows: 1st Battalion in the western part of STOLBERG (K-928428), 2nd Battalion southeast of VERLAUTENHEIDE (890449), and the 3rd Battalion was southwest of EILENDORF (K-880427-884438).

During the early morning the 18th Infantry reported a 3rd Battalion patrol had entered BLEIBENTHAL at 0145 without contact with the enemy, but at 0702 two patrols returned and reported the enemy in front of the 1st Battalion at 804404 and the 2nd Battalion at 809400. A 2nd Battalion patrol engaged in a fire fight with a small enemy detachment and other patrols worked toward AACHEN and maintained contact with the enemy. Patrols moved toward BLEIBENTHAL and then east along the main road to AACHEN (K-8142). While active patrolling was being conducted all battalions strengthened and improved their positions. At 1638 the 3rd Battalion, less K Company, was placed under the command of the 16th Infantry.

A small counterattack was beaten off by the 26th Infantry with Company A receiving the brunt of the attack. Afterwards contact with the enemy was very light as active patrolling was conducted and positions consolidated. The 1st

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Battalion remained attached to the 3rd Armored Division, the 2nd Battalion improved positions previously gained in the vicinity of DRIMBORN (K-867417) as did the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity east of STEINEFRUCK (K-852398-858407).

4th Cavalry Group

Progress of the 4th Cavalry in the mission of reconnoitering and maintaining contact with the 9th Division in the HOFEN - ALZEN area was slow due to numerous road blocks covered by dismounted enemy with AT guns and mines, and also due to heavy fog in the morning. Troop C, 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron on the south (right) flank was attacked by dismounted enemy in strength in the vicinity of CR F-009089 at 1800 after an enemy artillery preparation, and withdrew to a defensive position on the high ground astride the road, approximately 1 mile northwest. Patrols of Troop A, 24th Cavalry, encountered small arms fire in the vicinity of F-035064, and consolidated for the night, northeast of ALDENHOVEN (K-996057).

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was in continuous contact with the enemy dug-in in the vicinity of MONSCHAU FOREST (K-996123), and KRINKELTER WALD (F-103106). Company A, 759th Light Tank Battalion, patrolled roads in the ROCHERATH-ELSENBORN-KALTERHERBERG area with negative information secured, and contacted the 60th Infantry, 9th Division near the latter. Company A and Battalion Headquarters closed in the vicinity of ALZEN at 1745, prepared to relieve elements of the 60th Infantry Regiment.

Artillery

1st Division: fired 36 infantry, 9 morter, 8 assembly area, 11 vehicle and tank, 26 enemy gun, 30 harassing, and 23 miscellaneous missions including CP's, OP's, registrations, marking roads, factories as strong points, and MG pillboxes. Coordinated harassing missions were fired throughout the night. Total rounds expended were 2617.

3rd Armored Division: Continued close support of the Division with missions on infantry, strong points, enemy batteries and mortars.

9th Division: Fired 9 counterbattery, 9 pillbox, 2 tank, 3 preparation, 3 strong point, and 84 close support missions, expending a total of 1773 rounds.

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armored FA Bn fired 6 interdiction, 1 registration, 3 direct support and 2 harassing rounds, expending a total of 29 rounds of 105mm ammunition.

Corps: Fired 27 harassing, 4 registration, 10 counterbattery, 4 reinforcing, 6 strong point, 1 truck column, and 26 interdiction missions. Rounds expended: 1343. Battery C, 266th FA Bn (240 H) displaced forward during the afternoon to within 3 kilometers of the first to interdict traffic in DUREN (F-1246). Air OP reported rounds falling within the city.

Antiaircraft: 6 enemy planes were engaged during the 24 hour period ending at 180600 by the 109th AAA Gp with no claims made. The 1st Division reported that B and D Batteries (less 1 platoon) of the 103rd AAA AW Bn engaged 1 Me-109 and 6 FW-190's at 2000 to 4000 feet and 40mm and .50 calibre hits were observed one three enemy craft, all FW-190's. Two of these burstm into flames

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and with pieces of the planes falling off crashed at approximately K-900370. The 3rd was seen to smoke heavily and go into a sharp dive before disappearing into the mist to the east.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 7 rounds of 3" AP and 24 rounds of 3" direct fire, knocking out 1 half-track and killing many enemy infantry.

535th TD Bn: fired 10 rounds of 3" AP and 50 rounds of 3" direct. Knocked out 1 half-track, 1 AT Gun, and 1 machine gun nest.

703rd TD Bn: Fired 100 rounds of 3" direct fire. Results unknown.

899th TD Bn: Fired 29 rounds of 3" AP and 20 rounds of 3" direct. Knocked out 2 AT guns and 1 pillbox.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 436.

19 SEPTEMBER 1944

Street fighting continued in STOLBERG with VII Corps troops making slight gains as each house and building had be be cleared of stubborn resistance. Meanwhile German attacks were beaten off by other VII Corps units and the methodical reduction of pillboxes in the SIEGFRIED LINE was continued. Other units regrouped for an attack on 20 September.

The bulk of enemy action during the period centered around STOLBERG, where elements of the 9th Pz Division, the 89th Regiment of the 12th Infantry Division, and 105th Pz Brigade, supported by heavy artillery fire, strongly resisted our advance. The 116th Pz Division continued to outpost the edge of AACHEN, sending out several patrols to the south and southwest to probe our lines. To the east and west of STOLBERG, the enemy was content to dig-in and further consolidate his positions. Further to the south in the LAMERSDORF-MONSCHAU-ALZEN area, many pillboxes were neutralized and mopped up.

In the AACHEN sector the 453rd Replacement Battalion and 62nd Training Regiment supported the 116th Pz Division while additional enemy forces in the STOLBERG area that were in contact with Corps troops on this date were: III/6 Landes Schuetzen (supposed 3rd Battalion of 6th Home Guard Training Regiment, operating as a separate unit) and 27th Regiment of the 12th Infantry Division. This Division, according to prisoner of war interrogation, left east Prussia about 12 September. Other enemy units in contact with VII Corps troops on this date were 416th Regiment of 526th Division in the vicinity of LAMMERSDORF and elements of the 353rd and 526th Divisions in the vicinity of ZWEIFALL and 988075, respectively.

Weather again prohibited the support of ground forces by the IX Tactical Air Command.

9th Infantry Division: 39th Infantry continued to mop up pillboxes, 47th Infantry held all positions, receiving moderate artillery fire, and 60th Infantry made motorized move for attack on 20 Sept. 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, remained in HOFEN-ALZEN area.

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19 September

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3rd Armored Division: Combat Command Hickey entered factory area of STOLBERG while Combat Command Boudinot made limited advance to the north against heavy fire. Division had constant pressure on all fronts throughout the period.

1st Infantry Division: Held all positions and patrolled into the outskirts of AACHEN. 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, withstood all enemy attempts to dislodge it from factory area of STOLBERG.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol Corps right flank and relieved 60th Infantry, less 2nd Battalion, in the vicinity of HOFEN (K-9416) - ALZEN (K-9515).

9th Infantry Division

Southeast of LAMMERSDORF the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 39th Infantry attacked at 0730 to reduce pillboxes and other defenses in the SIEGFRIED LINE. The 2nd Battalion was held up by strong AT and self-propelled gun fire. During the afternoon the 2nd Battalion closed to the right to reduce the gap between the two battalions. During the day 4 pillboxes and 93 prisoners were taken and 1-105mm assult gun lost. Final positions were reached with the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of ROLLESCHROICH (K-976279-981276) and the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of KESTERNICH (K-981276-975252) and the 1st Battalion was attached to the 60th Infantry near ZWEIFALL. At the close of the period it was midway between that town and HURTGEN farther east (K-992358-992352).

The 47th Infantry held in place along the line from MAUSBACH (K-9640) to SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042). Heavy artillery fire was received in the 3rd Battalion area during the early morning hours. Patrolling revealed a strong defensive line held by the enemy along the Regimental front. The entire area was subjected to light harassing fire throughout the period. Final position were as follows: 1st Battalion, southeast of HASTENRATH (K-991441), 2nd Battalion, southwest of MAUSBACH (K-977406), and the 3rd Battalion, east of SCHEVENHUTTE (F-006421).

At 0900 the 60th Infantry, less the 2nd Battalion, began movement to a new assembly area southeast of ZWEIFALL. The march was motorized and made without incident with the 3rd Battalion and the separate companies of the 1st Battalion in that order. The 1st Battalion awaiting relief by elements of the 4th Cavalry Group did not begin movement until 1800. Upon arrival of the Combat Team in the new area the 1st Battalion of the 39th Infantry was attached. The 60th Infantry was given the mission of clearing out the area to the east and moved out at 1445, advancing against enemy delaying action and road blocks. By dark the road center in the vicinity of K-9935 had been seized. At the close of the period the 1st and 3rd Battalions were in the WENAU FOREST at K-982354 and K-980359, respectively. The 2nd Battalion remained in the vicinity of HOFEN (K-964173-970194).

3rd Armored Division

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, less Companies A and B, reinforced, secured the road just north of BUSBACH throughout the day. At 1830 dismounted enemy infantry were observed infiltrating south through the barriers in front of the Battalion positions. A mobile reserve of the Division Reserve was moved forward to check the enemy and hasty minefields were placed at K-934413 and K-922412 and positions maintained.

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19 September

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Combat Command Hickey was ordered to resume cleaning up operations in the western section of STOLBERG. However, due to the Command's infantry elements being unable to disengage the enemy, this operation was not possible, and the Command continued to hold positions in the factory district of the city with very little advance. Task Force Doan was supported by Task Force Blanchard in a limited objective attack which failed to greatly alter the lines.

Combat Command Boudinot had the mission of cleaning up the eastern section of STOLBERG with the objective of STEINFURTH (K-938450), to the north of the former town. Due to strong enemy action and the difficult terrain Combat Command Boudinot was unable to carry out its mission and at 1500 was ordered to secure the general line SEIFENBERG - DUFFENTER. At the close of the period the forces of the Command were disposed over this general line with elements extending from DUFFENTER (K-9543) southeastward to K-963420.

Task Force Hogan of the Reserve resumed the attack at 0700 to secure the high ground in the vicinity of 968425, north of WEIFENBERG. Stubborn enemy resistance was encountered and the mission was not accomplished. At 1400 the Force was placed under the control of Combat Command Boudinot so as to combine forces in that sector. At the close of the period the Task Force was holding a part of the Combat Command's general line in the center between Task Forces Lovelady and Mills.

1st Infantry Division

All three infantry regiments of the 1st Division received fairly heavy shelling from enemy artillery during the night and early morning which continued through the period to a more or less sporadic degree. The 16th Infantry maintained contact with the enemy through active patrolling, and the 1st Battalion operating with the 3rd Armored Division in the STOLBERG factory district, withstood all enemy attempts to dislodge it from positions held there. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions held positions east and north of AACHEN in the vicinity of EILENDORF.

The 18th Infantry continued to consolidate their positions to the south and southwest of AACHEN and organize positions previously captured. Patrols were active to the front and flanks and contact maintained with the enemy. The 26th Infantry maintained positions southeast of AACHEN and during the night an enemy attack of company strength was repulsed in the E Company sector with the aid of artillery. Probing of enemy defenses continued as combat patrols were sent out by all battalions.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, reinforced by TD and engineer detachments, less Troop A, proceeded to HOFEN - ALZEN area and completed relief of the 60th Infantry Regiment in that sector. Headquarters and Company A, 759th Light Tank Battalion, remained in the vicinity of HOFEN and with the assistance of the 2nd Battalion of the 60th Infantry and 9th Division artillery, covered the arrival of the 4th Cavalry with AT and mortar fire. The Cavalry were subjected to heavy observed enemy artillery fire during their march and after arrival at their destination in the vicinity of HOFEN. All elements of the 759th Tank Battalion returned to the vicinity of ROCHERATH in the morning.

Patrolling was continued throughout the period by the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in their zone along the WARCHE River to the south. Light

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enemy resistance was encountered in the form of road blocks and small arms fire.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired a counter-flak preparation on 10 enemy AA positions at 1300 to protect friendly bombers in the area. One battery, 2 volleys, was placed on each location. Other missions fired were 12 infantry, 8 road, 16 harassing, 3 counterbattery, 5 machine gun, and 13 miscellaneous (OP's, show lines, registrations, etc.), expending a total of 1157 rounds. A patrol from the 18th Infantry located an enemy motor pool in which 150 vehicles had been destroyed or damaged by our artillery fire.

1st Division Arty reported that ammunition limitations did not allow for the maximum effective use of artillery since manh suspected and reported enemy locations that might have been profitable had to be passed up to insure a supply being available for observed close support and counterbattery fire.

3rd Armored Division: Massed heavy fires on enemy retreating through HASTENRATH at approximately noon. Mission was fired by 3-105 Armd Bns, and 1-155 howitzer Bn, and 1-445 gun Bn, with a proportion of WP smoke used.

A report of 12 direct fire missions on concrete pillboxes fired by the 991st FA Bn (155 gun SP) indicated all 12 were successful due either to destruction of the pillbox or the surrender of the enemy occupants. In one case in which T105 CP fuze was used officers examining the pillbox reported shells had gone through. In another case success was achieved by using WP smoke with delay fuze; PW's from the ipllbox reported it became untenable. In a third case no penetration could be achieved with T105 CP fuze on a steel capula (14") but occupants surrendered when the ventilating system was shot up.

9th Division: Fired 22 counterbattery, 14 pillbox, 2 strong point, 2 tank, 1 preparation and 55 close support missions. Rounds expended: 2223.

4th Cavalry: Destroyed enemy SP gun, which had succeeded in getting near its gun positions in the vicinity of K-987073. Fired harassing missions throughout the period at important intersections and key points of reported enemy activity or resistance. The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 629 rounds of 105mm on the following missions: 16 interdictions, 2 registrations, 9 direct support.

Corps: 980th FA Bn (155 G) fired several close support missions in support of an isolated task force of the 3rd Armd Div. Fire was brought within 500 yards of friendly troops with results and accuracy reported as excellent.

286th FA Bn (240 H) fired 14 rounds at a 20 by 45 foot pillbox at range of 20,800 yards, scoring a direct hit on the 14th round. Other missions fired by Corps Artillery included 29 interdiction, 13 counterbattery, 4 preparation, 4 railroad, 1 vehicle, and 4 registration. Rounds expended: 1091.

During the day 3 missions were fired by the 991st Field Artillery Battalion using the 155 mm gun, self-propelled, M-12 on direct fire on the SIEGFRIED LINE with the T-105 concrete-piercing fuze. The firsttwo missions, both on pillbox targets at ranges of 1200 and 800 yards, resulted in the neutralization of the pillbox with the expenditure of only 4 and 9 rounds, respectively,

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of HE ammunition. The other mission was fired at a steeple at 2000 yards range, and although 6 hits were made out of 10 rounds fired using the M-51 fuze, the steeple was too thinly constructed to obtain good effect, and it was later re-occupied by the enemy.

Conclusions reached by Corps Artillery after the past several days of firing on SIEGFRIED LINE fortifications with ranges varying from 120 to 1800 yards, mostly at about 800 yards with all missions successful in rendering the pillbox ineffective, and in three cases which resulted in reinforced concrete up to 7 feet in thickness being pierced.were

The M12, 155mm gun, self-propelled, had been extremely successful in destroying concrete emplacements employing direct fire methods. Concrete-piercing fuze T-105 fired from the M-12 will pierce 7 feet of reinforced concrete at 1500 yards. The T-105 fuze will not pierce steel, but it is not necessary to pierce the pillbox in order to neutralize it. Concussion caused by the projectile from the M-12 severely shocks occupants of an emplacement and damages the armament.

Antiaircraft: 16 planes were engaged during the period by the 109th AAA Gp with the 557th AAA AW Bn claiming 2 catagory I and 1, catagory II claims out of 15. The 438th AAA AW Bn engaged one enemy craft with no claims made. The 103rd AAA AW Bn (1st Div) engaged one Me-109 and succeeded in driving it away from Div CP, but no claim was made.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn: Fired 25 rounds of 3" AP and 135 rounds of HE direct fire. 899th TD Bn: Fired 56 rounds of 3" APC and 21 rounds of 3" HE. Destroyed 5 pillboxes and 1 MG nest. The 635th TD Bn fired 11 rounds of 75mm on the following missions: registrations and 1 direct support.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 385.

20 SEPTEMBER 1944

While the left flank of the VII Corps remained firm around the southern outskirts of AACHEN (K8443), the center elements advanced to take the high ground east of STOLBERG (K-9342), and the right flank consolidated positions along the SIEGFRIED LINE.

Enemy forces in STOLBERG clung tenaciously to their positions, and bitter house to house fighting continued unabated at the end of the day. Elements of the 116th Panzer Division and the 453 Replacement Battalion continued to outpost the southern outskirts of AACHEN, repulsing with small arms and machine gun fire attempts of friendly patrols to enter the city. East of ZWEIFALL (K-9637), the enemy withdrew, while south of LAMMERSDORF (K-9626) pillboxes were still holding out. Enemy tanks operated in groups of two or three at MUNSTERBUSCH (K-9242), STOLBERG, and south of AACHEN (K-8443). Artillery fire decreased south of AACHEN but continued heavy near STOLBERG.

9th Infantry Division: 39th Infantry continued to mop up near LAMMERSDORF (K-9626). 47th Infantry relieved elements of the 3rd Armored Division west of GRESSENICH (K-9842). 60th Infantry made slight gains toward KLEINHAN (F-0537).

3rd Armored Division: Captured high ground east of STOLBERG (K-9342) and continued to mop up enemy in MUNSTERBUSCH (K-9242).

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20 September

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1st Infantry Division: Continued mopping up resistance in STOLBERG (K9342) and patrolling into the outskirts of AACHEN (1443).

9th Infantry Division

On the extreme right of the Division, the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, remained in place, receiving mortar and small arms fire. At the end of the day it was on the high ground just north of MONSCHAU (K-942181). The remainder of the Combat Team fanned out, in conjunction with the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, to advance northeast through the WENAU and ROTGEN FORESTS, east of ZWEIFALL (K-9526). In the center, the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, was held up at 1230 by enemy pillboxes, but a combined infantry and tank attack at 1300 overcame the resistance. The 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, cleared roads on the right flank, reaching a position (K-986343), on high ground midway between the ROTGEN FOREST and the HURTGEN FOREST to the northeast, while the 3rd Battalion patrolled vigorously north and east on the left flank of the regimental zone, reaching aposition between the WENAU and HURTGEN FORESTS (K-995382).

The 39th Infantry (less the 1st Battalion) resumed attack at 0900 west of LAMMERSDORF (K-9626), coming under artillery fire and meeting stubborn resistance. The bulk of the units remained just west of the town throughout the day.

The 47th Infantry remained in position throughout the morning. At 1200 the 2nd Battalion moved to relieve Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division, north of MAUSBACH (K-9642), which was accomplished before dark. At 1730, G Company, returning to the 2nd Battalion, took up its position northeast of MAUSBACH. The 3rd Battalion sent patrols north and northeast, penetrating the outskirts of GRESSENICH (K-9842). The 1st Battalion remained throughout the day about two kilometers south of GRESSENICH (K-9941).

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Boudinot continued to improve its defensive position throughout the day. Task Force Mills conducted a limited objective attack at 1500 in an effort to secure the high ground at DUFFENTER (K-9543). After encountering determined opposition of artillery, anti-tank, and tank fire, the Task Force finally reached its objective at 2000, where it leaguered for the night. Task Force Hogan improved its position by advancing approximately 500 yards to a position southeast of STOLBERG (K-9542). Task Force Lovelady remained in its position east of Task Force Mills throughout the day supporting by fire, the attack of Task Force Mills in the late afternoon.

Combat Command Hickey continued to clean up enemy pockets of resistance in MUNSTERBUSCH (K-9242) and STOLBERG (K9342). Task Force Doan and Task Force Blanchard conducted dismounted mopping-up operations in an effort to dislodge all enemy resistance in their defensive zones. Their respective positions at the end of the day were: (K-929429) just west of STOLBERG and (K-92[illegible]2), 1 kilometer to the southwest.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Infantry Division continued to consolidate and maintain positions south and east of AACHEN for the defense. The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry,

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was ordered to proceed to STOLBERG (K-9442) to clean out all resistance in that town. Throughout the afternoon Companies A and C were unable to advance because of strong enemy resistance. Company B was able to make some progress, moving slowly from house to house to house to oust the enemy from his fortified positions. In order to fill the gap in the 16th Infantry line made by the movement east of the 1st Battalion, Company L, 18th Infantry, was committed at the right rear of Company B, 16th Infantry. The remaining battalions of the 16th Infantry received artillery and machine gun fire throughout the day as they consolidated their position.

At 0900 the 26th Infantry sent two combat patrols toward BURTSCHEID on the outskirt of AACHEN (K857420), where the enemy was engaged for a period of two hours. Otherwise than patrolling and observation for artillery action, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions spent their efforts consolidating their position. The 1st Battalion remained attached to the 3rd Armored Division.

The 18th Infantry, on the left flank of the division front, engaged in active patrolling in the direction of AACHEN and STEINBRUCK (K837406). All patrols met enemy fire, but throughout the day the patrols kept probing the enemy position and attempting to enter AACHEN. Except for Company L, the positions of the 18th Infantry were essentially unchanged from the previous day.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (less Troop A), reinforced by Tank Destroyer and Engineer attachments, defended the HOFEN (K9516) - ALZEN (K9615) area, in conjunction with the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry on its left flank. The enemy remained passive throughout the period, although local dismounted patrols received small arms and mortar fire.

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (plus Troop A, 4th Cav Ron Sq) maintained a screen line in the region of BULLINGEN (K9502) and extended patrols north and east.

The 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion fired 801 rounds (105mm) on 14 interdiction, 1 registration, and 4 direct support missions.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: Fired 23 Infantry, 21 enemy gun, 31 harassing, 5 tank, 9 mortar and machine gun, 2 pillboxes, 8 vehicle, and 25 miscellaneous missions, expending 1820 rounds.

9th Infantry Division: Fired 107 close support, 14 counter-battery, 9 preparation, 1 tank, 1 pillbox, and 4 strong point missions, expending 1941 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to give close support to the division, expending approximately 2800 rounds.

Corps: Fired 31 counterbattery, 22 interdiction, 11 troop concentrations, 6 harassing, 7 reinforcing, 3 tank, and 4 registration missions, expending 1322 rounds.

Antiaircraft: The 109th AAA Gp reported that 6 enemy planes were engaged during the period with the 474th AAA AW Bn, claiming the probable destruction of two planes. The 103rd AAA AW Bn with the 1st Division destroyed two enemy craft.

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Tank Destroyers: 635th TD Bn fired 1 interdiction mission, expending 40 rounds of 75mm ammunition.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 359.

21 SEPTEMBER 1944

Progress was made during the period in mopping up operations against enemy resistance in the STOLBERG area and in the reduction of pillboxes in the SIEGFRIED LINE. No large scale attacks were made by the VII Corps in compliance with First Army directive of 19 September that VII Corps would consolidate and hold while waiting for the XIX Corps, on our left, to attack.

Heavy fighting still continued in the factory district of MUSTERBUSCH and STOLBERG as the enemy resisted stubbornly in a house to house defense. South of AACHEN our patrols continued to meet enemy mortar, machine gun and anti-tank fire from emplacements along the railroad southeast of the city. In the GRESSENICH area, the enemy sent out vigorous patrols to probe our lines. Enemy resistance from pillboxes east and northeast of LAMMERSDORF continued; further to the south in the vicinity of ROHREN, enemy patrols were active throughout the period. One small patrol succeeded in infiltrating to HURTGEN (K-9802) before being discovered and driven out.

9th Infantry Division: 47th Infantry held positions, received sporadic artillery fire while the 60th Infantry attacked to the east, reducing pillboxes and well defended road blocks. The 39th Infantry attacked, meeting stubborn resistance from pillboxes.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to mop up enemy in STOLBERG area meeting stubborn resistance. Task Force Mills obtained objective (K-9443).

1st Infantry Division: Held positions, continued to patrol into the outskirts of AACHEN and mopping up operations in STOLBERG.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol Corps right flank along the general line F-006986 - ALTEN (K-9615) - HOFEN (K-9516).

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Infantry attacked in the morning to continue the reduction of enemy pillboxes and road blocks in the SIEGFRIED LINE in their area in the vicinity of LAMMERSDORF with Company F jumping off at 0830 followed by Companies E and F at half hour intervals. Company F was held up immediately by machine gun fire, while Companies E and K advanced slowly northward against stubborn opposition. The 2nd Battalion of the 60th Infantry which was attached to the 39th Infantry patrolled to the northeast, meeting mortar and automatic weapons fire. In the day's operation two pillboxes were reduced and 98 prisoners taken. This Regiment reduced between 35 and 40 defended pillboxes in the past three days. The pillbox which was covered up with a bulldozer two days ago was uncovered and when the enemy still refused to surrender direct fire was placed on the entrance to the box by supporting artillery and 24 dead Germans were dragged out. At 1500 the 2nd Battalion of the 60th Infantry was attached to Task Force Fincher, (TDs, Arty, Engrs, Tanks and Infantry), with the mission of protecting the Divisions right and rear flank.

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At the close of the period the 3 Battalions of the 39th Infantry were occupying the following positions: 1st Battalion attached to 60th Infantry, southeast of KREWINKEL (K-995403), 2nd Battalion, south of ROLLESTROICH (K-992262) (988272), and 3rd Battalion, in the same general locality south of the 2nd Battalion at K-983264-971255.

Defensive positions were occupied by the 47th Infantry which was charged with the protection of the Corps right flank from the north, northwest and northeast. The 2nd Battalion had a local engagement, starting at 0550 hours with machine gun, mortar and artillery fire. The 3rd Battalion also received some artillery fire during the night. At 1450 the 2nd Battalion received heavy shelling. Harassing fire of heavy calibre continued throughout the day. Final positions of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions were respectively southwest of GRESSENich (K-972423-964426) and in the vicinity of SCHEVENHUTTE (F-006421). The 1st Battalion was further to the east, east of KREWINKEL at (K-992412-F-007415).

The 60th Infantry with the 1st Battalion of the 39th Infantry attached, less the 2nd Battalion, attacked east toward GROSHALL at 0830 with the objective of KLEINHAN. Slow progress was made after Company L after moving 1500 yards northeast established a road block at RJ 010390 had several encounters with enemy forces. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion was north of TODTEN-BRUCH (K-995323) and the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of MONSCHAU (K-942181). The 3rd Battalion which had the mission of defending its positions and patrolling to the front and flanks, commenced activities at daylight. At the close of the period this Battalion was occupying positions in KONIGL FOREST, west of KLEINHAN at F-007368). The 60th Infantry reduced 4 pillboxes and 5 road blocks during the day and captured 95 prisoners.

3rd Armored Division

Mopping up operations continued throughout the day in the defensive zone of the 3rd Armored Division. Combat Command Hickey reduced enemy resistance in the MUSTERBUSCH-STOLBERG are a, encountering tanks, anti-tank guns and infantry in strongly defended positions. At the close of the period the Combat Command was disposed in defensive positions at K-920427 - 930428 - 930418 - 925417 922420.

Combat Command Boudinot likewise continued to improve their positions throughout the day and mopping up operations were engaged in by all combat forces. Task Force Hogan moved to the vicinity of south STOLBERG (K-941422) and continued to reduce enemy resistance in this sector. Strong enemy resistance encountered, which necessitated house to house street-fighting. The Task Force remained in that location throughout the night. Task Force Mills improved his position during the day, withdrawing late in the evening to a position south of STEINFURTH, thus improving the general defensive line in the Combat Command sector. Air in support of Task Force Mills in the late afternoon, knocked out several tanks and AT guns overlooking the position of the Task Force. Elements of Task Force Lovelady moved to the Combat Command defensive line, taking over the sector DUFFENTER (K-9543) to (K-965430).

The Division Reserve continued to hold defensive positions north of BUSBACH throughout the period. The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion continued its mission of cleaning up east and south of BUSBACH destroying enemy pillboxes and other defensive positions.

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21 September

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1st Infantry Division

1st Division units held their positions east, south and west of AACHEN and consolidated their defenses, sending patrols into the city. 16th Infantry patrols reported heavy enemy traffic between AACHEN and HARREN and all types of vehicles coming out of the former on the road running northeast to WURSELEN. The 1st Battalion continued to mop up in STOLBERG, where resistance continued from the fortified houses and buildings. The 18th Infantry also sent patrols out to probe enemy lines in AACHEN and contact was made with the enemy at BLUMENTHAL-VAELSER-QUARTIER. The 3rd Battalion, less K Company, 18th Infantry, remained attached to the 16th Infantry, and the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, continued attachment to the 3rd Armored Division.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, reinforced, defended the HOFEN - ALZEN area in conjunction with the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, on its left flank. Dismounted patrolling to the northeast and east was carried out through the day. Enemy dismounted patrols, mortars and tanks were discovered by our patrols and brought under effective artillery fire. The enemy attitude continued passive with continuation of road block construction in the forest to the east and not too aggressive patrolling.

Vigorous patrolling was conducted by the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, with Troop A, 4th Cavalry attached, while maintaining a screen line. Patrols that extended to the north and east met light enemy resistance in the forest. Enemy patrols in that sector were driven out by our troops just prior to daylight. The 759th Light Tank Battalion continued mounted patrolling between BUTGENBACH and KALTERHERBERG. Sporadic enemy artillery fire was encountered.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 28 infantry, 27 harassing, 15 vehicle, 8 counterbattery, 6 mortar, 2 pillbox, 1 horse-drawn artillery column, and 9 miscellaneous missions. Rounds expended: 1510.

9th Division: Fired 75 close support, 58 harassing, 4 tank, 4 registration, 2 pillbox, and 14 counterbattery missions, expending a total of 2553 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired approximately 4000 rounds mainly on close support and counterbattery missions. Single enemy guns were engaged with success by precision methods using combination of HE with delay fuze and WP.

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armored FA Bn fired 1032 rounds of 105mm ammunition on 7 interdiction, 2 registration, and 6 direct support missions.

Corps: Fired 2 battalions of 155 guns, one volley each, on a railroad train halted alongside a warehouse. WP smoke was included. The air observers reported fires and a large column of smoke resulting from the missions.

A TOT mission was fired with three battalions on enemy AA guns which fired on a Corps Artillery Air OP injuring occupants slightly and damaging the plane. This mission was made possible by a prompt and accurate report of the incident by an infantry patrol of the 9th Infantry Division.

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Other missions included 40 counterbattery, 36 interdiction, 11 registration, 2 infantry, 2 CP's, 2 strong points, supply train and 1 pillbox. Rounds expended: 1271.

Antiaircraft: No activity was reported for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn: Expended 15 rounds of 3" HE and 12 rounds of 3" AP direct fire. Knocked out 2 enemy CP's, 1 AT gun, and 2 pillboxes (Covers period 200800 to 220800).

703rd TD Bn: Expended 224 rounds of HE and 18 rounds of 3" AP indirect fire on ESCHWEILER. B Company expended 63 rounds of HE and 57 rounds AP direct fire, knocking out 2 Mk V's and 2 pillboxes.

899th TD Bn: Expended 12 rounds of 3" HE and 7 rounds 3" AP direct fire and 50 rounds 3" indirect fire.

635th TD Bn: Fired 38 rounds of 3" HE on 1 interdiction and 1 registration missions.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 353.

22 SEPTEMBER 1944

Mopping up operations in STOLBERG (K-9342) were completed and positions were consolidated as the VII Corps advanced east against the defenses of the SIEGFRIED LINE where units continued the reduction of pillboxes and other strong points.

An enemy force identified as the 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 12th Infantry Division, attacked our positions southeast of GRESSENICH at approximately 0630 hours; the attack consisted almost exclusively of small arms and machine guns with no tank support, and was preceeded by a heavy artillery perperation fired by an estimated 60 guns. A few minor penetrations were made, but the situation was soon stablized and the enemy was forced to withdraw to the east and southeast, suffering severe losses. Enemy resistance in the southern section of STOLBERG ceased, but strong machine gun and AT fire was still met in the remainder of the city. In the AACHEN area the enemy continued to occupy positions in the outskirts of the city. However, resistance was somewhat lighter than during the previous day. Further to the south, the enemy continued to resist from his pillbox defenses in the vicinity of LAMMERSDORF, and progress was of necessity slowness.

No enemy aircraft were reported operating in the Corps zone during the period. Although visibility was limited, fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command continued in support of the Corps troops in furnishing column cover and armed reconnaissance and carried out close support missions knocking out several strong points and hitting a train in the vicinity of AACHEN.

9th Infantry Division: 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, repulsed enemy attack of estimated battalion strength with heavy loss to the enemy, leaving 135 counted enemy dead in front of our positions. The 39th Infantry continued reduction of pillboxes while the 60th Infantry pushed eastward reducing pillboxes also.

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22 September

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3rd Armored Division: Task Forces Hogan and Mills advancing from east and south made contact in STOLBERG where the mopping up operations in conjunction with the 1st Infantry Division were completed and positions consolidated on the high ground to the east of the city.

1st Infantry Division: Continued patrolling on the outskirts of AACHEN and assisted the 3rd Armored Division in mopping up STOLBERG, and relieved elements of Combat Command Hickey west of VICHT River.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the Corps right flank.

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Infantry continued limited objective attacks to the east with Companies E and K making the main effort and linking up to secure the main north-south highway between LAMMERSDORF and ZWEIFALL. Stubborn enemy resisistance continued from small arms, machine guns, mortars and some artillery. Company F made moderate gains over very difficult terrain. In these operations 1 pillbox was reduced and 125 prisoners taken. Air missions against enemy installations at RICKERATH (K-9724) was flown at 1010. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion was in the WENAU WALD at K-009416-002403, the 2nd Battalion was in the FOREST STAATS at K-983267-985310, and the 3rd Battalion was southeast of TODTENBRUCH, in the vicinity of FUSTENBACH.

At 0600 the 3rd Battalion of the 47th Infantry was severely counter-attacked by an enemy force estimated to be of battalion strength, following a particularly heavy artillery preparation. The main effort came from the east, where an enemy force worked around to the southeast of the 3rd Battalion's position, seriously threatening the south flank and communications. Artillery fire was placed on the area to the east of the Battalion by the 84th and 951st Field Artillery Battalions, and the 1st Battalion alerted to support the 3rd Battalion. At 0641 hours the 3rd Battalion reported its position overrun and Company C was ordered to reinforce the south (right) flank and protect its line of communication. The 3rd Battalion of the 60th Infantry was moved into the rear of the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry. However, by 0813 the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, had restored its front and forced the enemy to withdraw while inflicting heavy losses on the foe, and by 0905 all offensive action against the 3rd Battalion positions had ceased.

In this action the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, repelled the strongest attack yet made by the enemy to reduce the breach in the SIEGFRIED LINE which the 47th RCT had held since 16 Sept. That the attack was costly for the enemy was evidenced by a count of 135 German dead in the town of SCHVENHUTTE. Final positions of the 3rd Battalion were to the east of the town at F-001424-010414, while the 1st and 2nd Battalions occupied positions in the vicinity of GRESSENICH and MAUSBACH, respectively.

Meanwhile the 60th Infantry continued on its mission to clear out pillboxes in the southern part of the Divisional zone, although their objective was changed from KEENHAN to the inhabitated road centers below HURTGEN in the vicinity of GEMUNDER and REICHELSKEHL. The 1st Battalion moved out at 0830 and cut the main road in the vicinity of K-990315. Good progress was made until 1300 hours when light counter-attacks, supported by mortar and self-propelled artillery fire, against the Battalions left (east) flank, brought the advance to

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a halt, with Company A holding the exposed flank. The attack was beaten off and positions in the vicinity of the STAATS FOREST (F-000142-K-992319) were consolidated. At 0730 the 3rd Battalion was ordered to move north to support the 47th RCT and began its move at 0800 and arrived shortly thereafter. At 1200 the Battalion was ordered to return, which it did, leaving Company I to hold a road block in the vicinity of F-0140. At the end of the day the 3rd Battalion had taken up positions in the KONIGL FOREST, northwest of HURTGEN at F-007368.

The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, remained attached to Task Force Tincher, which continued to patrol the right flank of the Corps from the road junction in the vicinity of K-9426, southeast of ROTGEN to MONSCHAU, and held road blocks in that vicinity. During the morning the Task Force knocked out 4 enemy defended pillboxes.

3rd Armored Division

While continuing to hold its defensive line, the 3rd Armored Division completed mopping up enemy resistance in the STOLBERG area, while some lements were withdrawn for the purpose of refurbishing and overhaulling equipment. Elements of the 1st Division took over part of the 3rd Armored's zone to permit these necessary operations.

Combat Command Hickey was relieved during the afternoon by 1st Division units and withdrew from the line, west of the VICHT River to an assembly area in the vicinity of FREUND (K-9042). Task Force Blanchard and elements of the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion did not move into new assembly areas as their relief was not effected until after 2000.

Combat Command Boudinto continued to improve his defensive line throughout the period. Task Force Lovelady held his position on the line on the extreme northeast of the Division zone, to the west of MAUSBACH where the enemy continued to use mortar and artillery fire against his positions. Meanwhile Task Force Mills encountered several enemy tanks with fire fights resulting. In the afternoon coluum cover was provided by fighter-bombers. Task Force Mills was relieved from defensive mission west of BUSBACH and the Force was assembled as a mobile reserve to the west of Task Force Lovelady, prepared to reinforce the Combat Command or the 47th RCT. Task Force Hogan of the Reserve, attached to Combat Command Boudinot, moved north along the eastern side of STOLBERG cleaning up enemy resistance and at 2030 reported contact had been made with Task Force Mills on the right and elements of the 1st Infantry Division on the left. At the close of the period no resistance in STOLBERG was met, and Task Force Hogan moved up behind the left flank of Task Force Mills' position, to the left (west) of Task Force Lovelady.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Infantry Division continued to consolidate, maintain and hold captured ground without loss. Patrols continued to probe the front to ascertain the enemy's intentions, especially in the vicinity of AACHEN. The 16th Infantry relieved all armored elements in the Regimental sector, and the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, was released from attachment to the 3rd Armored Division at 1200. The 16th Infantry sent out patrols to investigate the large explosion which occured at approximately 0800 in the vicinity of K-827474 and reported that the enemy had made an unsuccessful attempt to blow the railroad bridge in that locality, although some damage was done to the span.

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22 September

SECRET

4th Cavalry Group

The reinforced 4th Cavalry Squadron, less Troop A, continued to defend the HOFEN - ALZEN area on the Corps right flank in conjunction with Task Force Tincher of the 9th Infantry Division on its own left flank. Patrols were extended to the north, and east. Entrenched enemy or groups in the process of digging-in were encountered along the entire front. One enemy patrol moved in close to the Squadron's position during dark, but was driven off by its fire.

With Troop A of the 4th Cavalry attached, the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron maintained a screen within their zone and patrolled out to their objectives---FORST MONSCHAU, HELLENTHALER WALD, KRINKELTER WALD, and HUNNINGER WALD. Enemy activity was reported in these wooded area along the patrol routes. Harassing enemy artillery fire fell sporadically within the sector throughout the period.

A portion of the Belgian Army, "A.S. S/Group Mob. de Cavalerie Lanciers", under the command of Colonel Cremir, moved into the 4th Cavalry Group sector, with the mission of patrolling flanks and supply routes. This Group had 100 men at ROBERTVILLE, 100 men at ELSENBORN, 150 men at AMPLEVE, and 200 men at BUTGENBACH.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 130 missions expending a total of 1855 rounds. Of the missions fired, 32 were harassing, 26 on infantry, 16 on tanks, 15 on enemy guns, 12 on vehicles, 5 on mortars, and machine guns, 5 on pillboxes, and 19 on miscellaneous targets (OP's, kitchens, registrations, and marking roads for Air Corps(.

9th Division: Fired 110 close support, 42 harassing, 3 pillboxes, 2 preperation, and 9 counterbattery missions. Rounds expended: 3253.

3rd Armored Division: Fired direct fire missions on 2 fortified houses and one pillbox with excellent results. Division artillery also marked two targets with red smoke for the Air Corps, and at the same time fired 10 counter-flak missions. Other missions included 16 close support, 14 harassing, 17 counterbattery, 5 on minor counter-attacks, 5 Nebelwerfer, and 1 OP. Rounds expended: 1800 (Approximate).

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armored FA Bn fired 6 interdiction, 1 registration, 7 preparation missions, expending 837 rounds of 105mm ammunition.

Corps: The 195th FA Bn (8" howitzer) fired precision adjustments on 3 pillboxes. The first mission expended 16 rounds, 1 of which was a direct hit; the second expended 10 rounds with 3 direct hits; and the third mission expended 18 rounds with 3 direct hits. The fire was observed and adjusted by a foward observer of the 195th Field Artillery Battalion working in conjunction with the 3rd Armored Division. All three pillboxes were silenced.

The 13th Field Artillery Observation Battalion reported from a flash OP on a 4 gun battery active at 0001 (23 Sept). A shellrep was received from the 9th Division at 0005. The 980th FA Bn (155 gun) and 195th FA Bn (8" Howitzer) fired two volleys each at 0010 TOT. Flash base reported a large explosion and 2 fires started; the 9th Division reported the shelling they had been receiving had ceased.

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Other missions fired were 4 registrations, 34 counterbattery, 8 reinforcing, and 38 interdiction. Rounds expended: 1458.

Antiaircraft: No acitvity was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600, 22 Sept.

Tank Destroyers: 635th TD Bn fired one interdiction and 1 registration mission, expending 34 rounds.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 500.

23 SEPTEMBER 1944

All positions were held during the period and a small advance eastward made by the 9th Infantry Division in the reduction of pillboxes and other strong points in the SIEGFRIED LINE. Other units maintained contact with the enemy through active patrolling. There was one small counter-attack during the period, and although visibility was limited the IX Tactical Air Command provided close support for the reduction of strong points.

An enemy force composed of infantry supported by 5 tanks or SP guns launched a small counter-attack at 1730 hours, 4 miles northeast of LAMMERSDORF. The attack was preceded by long range artillery but the enemy was quickly driven off, and by 1800 hours the situation was restored. Only slight resistance was encountered by patrols on the southern outskirts of AACHEN. Enemy traffic on all roads northeast of AACHEN was reported heavy. In the GRESSENICH area the enemy maintained close contact by the use of patrols. He continued his stubborn defense from pillboxes east and northeast of LAMMERSDORF, and moderate observed artillery and mortar fire fell in the area. During the past 24 hours enemy artillery fire decreased. There was no enemy air activity.

9th Infantry Division: The 47th Infantry consolidated positions, the 60th Infantry renewed the attack eastward and the 39th Infantry and Task Force Tincher continued the reduction of the SIEGFRIED LINE.

3rd Armored Division: Held all positions, maintaining contact with the enemy. Received sporadic artillery fire. Combat Command Hickey performed maintenance. No change was made in location of units.

1st Infantry Division: Held all positions and consolidated lines. 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, reverted to Regimental control and moved to K-077379.

4th Cavalry Group: Patrolled the right flank of the Corps.

9th Infantry Division

In the zone of the 39th Infantry Company K continued the attack at 0730 against a large, 10 room pillbox in the FOREST WENAU at K-982364 to its front. The Company succeeded in advancing beyond the pillbox to the east but could not force its surrender with artillery fire, bazookas or smoke. Just before dark it was finally knocked out after 24 pounds of dynamite, 18 Teller mines, and 400 pounds of TNT had been exploded on top of the position. The 39th Infantry troops then took 38 prisoners, 6 of whome had been wounded, from the pillbox. At 1125 G Company attacked to the northeast with the object of joinging up with

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the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry. Against small arms fire, machine gun and mortar fire the Company proceeded slowly, capturing a strong point at JAGERHAUS (K-9831), including 25 prisoners. Other elements of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions remained in position.

The 47th Infantry held defensive positions, consolidating during the period. The 1st Battalion of the 39th Infantry, attached to the 47th Infantry, organized positions facing east and southeast in the vicinity of SCHEVENHUTTE (F-010420 to 010414 to 005410). At 1415 C Company of the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, moved from position in Battalion Reserve at F-005415 to establish road blocks at F-016406 and F-017406. Minefields were encountered and cleared when the Company moved into position without drawing fire. At 2008 hours orders were received to abandon the road block at F-016406 and set up another at 018402. This was not accomplished by the end of the period, due to the presence of mines and booby-traps in the area.

At 0830 the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, continued the attack to the south. Progress was difficult and at 1200 the Battalion was halted by resistance in the form of intense small arms and artillery fire. At intervals during the day enemy patrols struck the left flank and at 1700 hours a small counter-attack was in the vicinity of F-001316 launched by the Boo, supported by long range artillery. Some disorganization developed, but by dark the attack was completely broken, and a defensive position organized. Company K with 4 tanks was ordered to support the 1st Battalion, and by dark it was in position in the rear of the Battalion. The remainder of the 3rd Battalion and the I and R Platoon remained in position. The 2nd Battalion continued to function reinforced as Task Force Tincher. Road blocks were established by this Task Force to the south as they continued their patrolling mission.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division continued in a state of rest, maintenance and rehabilitation throughout the period. Combat Command Dickey remained in assembly position in the vicinity of BUSBACH with Task Force Doan at K-928400 and Task Force Blanchard at K-939998. This was the first rest period for these armored units since the corresponding period of August, just prior to the Corps' drive across the SEINE River.

Combat Command Boudinot continued to hold the Division defensive sector with no particular enemy activity to its front. Task Forces Lovelady, Mills and Hogan continued to maintain defensive positions and patrolled in their respective sectors of the zone. Patrol activity was conducted to both flanks in order to maintain contact with the 9th Division on the right and the 1st Division on the right and the 1st Division on the left. TheDivision Reserve remained prepared to aid the 47th Infantry in case of necessity. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion maintained road patrols throughout the Division area during the day.

1st Infantry Division

Units of the 1st Division continued to hold and consolidate positions east, south and west of AACHEN. The only change in location was that of the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, which returned to Regimental control and assembled south of BRAND at F-977978. All other units continued to maintain previously captured

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ground without loss. Patrols were active to the front to maintain contact with the enemy and to the flanks to maintain contact with adjacent units.

The Division was to regroup in its present zone of action, prepared to seize the high ground northeast of AACHEN, in conjunction with the advance of the 30th Infantry Division (XIX Corps) on the north (left).

4th Cavalry Group

Defense of the HOPEN - ALZEN area was continued by the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, in conjunction with Task Force Timcher on its left (north). The Cavalry remained in contact with enemy units estimated at Battalion strength. Dismounted patrols were extended to the north and east. A small enemy patrol succeeded in infiltrating through our lines to the bridge at K-952153 before daylight, but was drive back. Sporadic enemy artillery and mortar fire fell throughout the period and was engaged by our counterbattery fire.

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, Troop A, 4th Cavalry Squadron attached, continued its screening mission and active patrolling. Contact was made with the 38th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (V Corps) every three hours during daylight at CR (K-975012). Enemy movement and light activity was reported by our patrols in the wooded areas. Some harassing artillery fire fell during the period.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 27 harassing, 19 counterbattery, 11 vehicle, 8 mortar and machine gun, 1 tank, and 13 miscellaneous missions (registrations, CPs and ammunition dumps). Rounds expended: 2336.

9th Division: Fired 79 close support, 71 harassing, 6 pillbox (Btry B, 991st FA Bn), 1 tank, and 14 counter-battery missions. Rounds expended: 3661.

3rd Armored Division: Expended approximately 700 rounds on close support, interdiction, and harassing missions. One light battalion was withdrawn for maintenance.

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armored FA Bn fired 638 rounds of 105mm ammunition on 8 interdiction, 1 harassing, and 8 direct support missions.

When the 4th Cavalry Group was given the mission of protecting the Corps' right flank on 1 September, the 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion was attached to the Cavalry Group. During the period of rapid movement north into Belgium and then east to the SIEGFRIED LINE the 87th Armd FA Bn was engaged primarily in following closely behind the Cavalry, rapidly occupying positions when the Cavalry was halted, regestering, and firing two or three missions before getting on the road again. The average daily ammunition expenditure during this period (1-15 Sept.) was 150 rounds. Missions were mainly interdiction and registration. Some few infantry, tank, vehicle, and counterbattery missions were fired.

After the Cavalry Group assumed a defensive role the 87th Armored FA Bn did considerably more firing, averaging 675 rounds per day during the period 15-21 Sept. Missions in order of frequency were interdiction, enemy infantry, regis-

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tration, counterbattery, AT guns, strong points, tanks, vehicles, and machine guns. The majority of missions were observed.

On several occasions the 87th Armd FA Bn actually held ground with its fire while the Cavalry elements which had takenthe ground moved on to outflank the next German position.

Corps: An Air OP of the 3rd Armd Division adjusted the 195th FA Bn (8" Howitzers) on an enemy battery at a range of 13,000 yards. The Battalion fired 2 volleys for effect. Fire was reported very effedtive with one direct hit on a gun obtained.

A ground observer from the 3rd Armd Div Arty adjusted the 980th FA Bn (155mm gun) on a heavy enemy gun. The Battalion fired 2 volleys for effect with converged sheaf, range 16,400 yards; the observer reported entire position blew up with explosions continuing for 5 minutes.

Other missions were as follows: 49 interdiction and harassing, 20 counterbattery, and 7 registrations. Rounds expended: 966.

Battery B, 991st Field Artillery Battalion, 155mm gun, self-propelled, M-12 fired the following missions: alarge concrete emplacement at range 2325 yards, 17 rounds of HE and 1 smoke, using 6 M-51 fuze and 12 concrete-piercing T-105 fuze with the result that a penetration was made in several places after the protecting bank of earth had been blasted away.

A cupola type pillbox at range 2050 yards, using 10 rounds of HE and 1 smoke with 3 CP T-105 fuze and 8 M-51 resulted in one or two rounds richochating off the top of this type pillbox, but several direct hits completely wrecked it.

Cement emplacement dug into a hill side at a range of 2200 yards, using 11 rounds of HE, 3 with CP T-105 fuze and 8 with M-51 which resulted in the box being penetrated and wrecked by hits on exposed surface, a rectangle at 1100.

Cement box (probably for machine gun) in hedgerow at range of 2000 yards, using 8 rounds of HE and 1 of smoke with M-51 fuze, and direct hits in the embrasure demolised the box. Chunks of concrete were seen flying in the air.

Antiaircraft: No activity for the period ending at 0600 was reported by by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 636th TD Bn fired 1 interdiction and 1 registration mission, expending 28 rounds of ammunition.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 203.

21 SEPTEMBER 1944

No material change developed along the front of the VII Corps during the day. Limited objective attacks were launched to reduce pillboxes in the SIEGFRIED LINE in the zone of the 9th Division while all defensive battalions were held without the loss of ground. One enemy counter-attack was beaten off and armored units continued to be rotated between front line defensive positions and rear assembly areas for rest periods.

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24 September

SECRET

An enemy force composed of the 10th and 11th Companies and Machine Pistol Platoon of the 3rd Battalion, 48th Infantry Regiment, attacked our positions northwest of MUNSTERBUSCH (K-9342) in an attempt to seize the high ground and road junction west of the town; the attack was momentarily successful, but by 1000 hours the enemy had been forced to yield his gains and withdraw to the north of the road, suffering heavy casualties.

Enemy forces still continued to occupy positions on the outskirts of AACHEN (K-8443). Enemy action in the GRESSENICH (K-9942) area was limited to vigorous patrolling. Southwest of HERTSEN, (F-0436) elements of the 861st Infantry Regiment and 328th Replacement Battalion, supported by self-propelled guns from the 341st Assault Gun Battalion, made several attempts to retake previously lost pillboxes in the area. Considerable vehicular traffic was observed in the ECHWEILER K-9749 - LANGERWEHE F-0347 area.

No enemy air activity was reported during the period, but an increase in his artillery fire was noted between EILENDORF (K-8943) and STOLBERG (K-9443), and heavy mortar fire fell at BRAND (K-8940), southeast of AACHEN. Sound locations during the period indicated that 80 per cent of the enemy light and medium artillery activity on the Corps front had been shifted to the north and east of AACHEN.

9th Infantry Division: Knocked out enemy strong points and pillboxes and maintained road blocks on eastern front of Division. 2nd Battalion of 47th Infantry was relieved by reserve elements of 3rd Armored Division, and 297th Engineer Combat Battalion took over defensive position between the 47th and 60th Infantry Regiments.

3rd Armored Division: Reserve elements relieved Task Force Lovelady, Combat Command Boudinot, and 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry (9th Infantry Division), and established 5 road blocks in the vicinity of MAUSBACH (K-9740).

1st Infantry Division: Held all positions, repulsing small enemy counter-attack at 0620 in the zone of the 16th Infantry.

4th Cavalry Group: Patrolled the right flank of the Corps along the general line MONSCHAU (K-9418) - ROCHERATHE WALD (F-0008) - BUCHHERTZ FOREST (F-9199), meeting an increase of enemy patrolling during the day.

9th Infantry Division

Due to the prevailing strong wind which precluede the use of smoke, original plans of the 39th Infantry involving the use of smoke in its attack to the east was suspended. In preparation for the attack the main LAMMERSDORF (K-0626) - ROLLESBROICH (K-9926), road was cleared of mines up to the front lines. The weather remained unfavorable and G Company pushed only up to the road junction at K-987313, which had been designated as the point of contact with the 60th Infantry. The Company remained in that vicinity, awaiting arrival of the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry. During the day 25 prisoners were taken, and an enemy strong point at K-984310 reduced. Company C established road blocks at F-011407, F-017406 and F-018402. Company A extended its right flank to cover positions previously held by B Company when that unit moved to the Reserve in the vicinity of F-001403.

During the early morning a small enemy group attempting to infiltrate were driven off by the Tank Destroyer Platoon attached to the 2nd Battalion, 47th Inf-

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antry. After being relieved by elements of the 3rd Armored Division, the 2nd Battalion of the 47th Infantry moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-000400 at 1900 hours. Enemy artillery fire continued to fall on the regimental front during the day.

The 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, moved to the left of the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, arriving in position at 0900. This unit then moved off, attacking, south and by 1300 had reduced a pillbox and strong point, killing a large number of enemy. By 1430 the 3rd Battalion came abreast of the 1st Battalion on its right and then advanced until dark. At the close of the period the 3rd Battalion was in the STAATS FORST at F-000322. Mearwhile the 1st Battalion had commenced reorganization and consolidation of positions after the enemy attack of the night before. At 1030 hours another attack struck the left flank. This was repulsed and at 1300 hours the Battalion launched an attack against 2 pillboxes to its front. Heavy fighting ensued against enemy infantry and tanks, but by 1700 hours both pillboxes had been reduced. The Battalion then continued the advance to positions abreast of the 3rd Battalion on its left. The line held by these two Battalions ran generally from T-992326 to F-002322.

~~Task Force Tincher~~ (2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Reinforced) held road blocks at K-902212, K-938230, K-948234, and K-921120, and patrolled from K-940263 to MONSCHAU. Early in the afternoon patrols were sent north on the road running west out of KONZEN (K-9522), and they encountered enemy fire. Another patrol sent northeast to IMGENBROICH (K-9520) met resistance just short of the town. A third patrol which probed south toward the 4th Cavalry zone reported no enemy contact. The 297th Combat Engineers held positions in the KONIGL FORST from F-010390 to F-009338.

3rd Armored Division

Defensive positions were maintained by the 3rd Armored Division with the Reserve continuing to hold front line defenses while elements of the Combat Commands withdrew for rest and maintenance of equipment. Combat Command Hickey remained in assembly positions performing maintenance and rehabilitation. The 83rd Battalions of the 32nd Armored Regiment, and the 36th Armored Infantry Regiment were released from the Combat Command and attached to the Reserve.

Combat Command Boudinot continued its defensive mission and conducted light patrolling. Task Force Hogan encountered a few casualties in pushing a patrol of his to RJ (K-935434). Task Force Mills held its position receiving only intermittant artillery fire during the period. Task Force Lovelady was ordered to secure Hill (K-984433) in the afternoon. After reducing stiff enemy opposition this objective was reached. However, due to heavy mortar and artillery fire the Task Force withdrew to its former position at 1830 hours.

In accordance with a rotation plan for all units to receive rest, Task Force Lovelady was relieved at 2300 by Task Force Orr (2nd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment and moved to K-935380. At the same time Task Force Orr relieved the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, placing into effect a new boundary between the 9th Infantry and 3rd Armored Divisions. The Division Reserve took over the right half of the Division defensive sector (K-953429 to K-973422) between STOLBERG and GRESSENICH to the east. Task Force Kane moved to an assembly position in the vicinity of K-9641, west of MAUSBACH. The Force remained on an alert status, prepared to assist the Division front or the 47th Infantry if necessary. Elements of Task Force Kane established road blocks in the MAUSBACH area. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued to patrol roads throughout the Division sector.

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1st Infantry Division

At 0620 the 3rd Battalion of the 18th Infantry, attached to the 16th Infantry, was attacked. A platoon of I Company was hard pressed. The enemy hit this unit from three sides and they were forced to yield ground. The Regimental I and R Platoon and the Reconnaissance Platoon of the 634th TD Battalion were dispatched to assit stem the enemy attack. The Enemy troops occupied pillbxes in the Company I zone. The 16th Infantry tanks and infantry attacked at 1054 as the enemy following up forces attempted to push down the road. By 1225 the 3rd Battalion of the 18th Infantry had regained its position and the platoon of Company I was restored to its former position and mopping up. The Division reported that devastating artillery fire was brought upon the enemy in support of the16th Infantry and the attached 18th Infantry Battalion. Enemy casualties were high and a number of prisoners taken. The remainder of the 16th Infantry continued to hold positions to the east of AACHEN with their line running roughly from east of HAAREM, southeast to MUNSTERBUSCH, on the extreme right of the Division sector.

In the center of the Division sector the 26th Infantry held positions south east of AACHEN. At 1410 the 1st Battalion of this regiment was made Division Reserve, and the Battalion performed maintenance and rehabilitation. The 26th Infantry continued active patrolling to maintain contact with the enemy and adjacent units.

The 18th Infantry, less the 3rd Battalion, which occupied positions to the southwest of AACHEN, laid anti-tank mines in a road block at K-813404 with AP mines and booby-traps on both sides of the road. A similiar mission was carried out at K-887392. Active patrolling was maintained throughout the night and day by all units in the direction of AACHEN.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, reinforced, less Troop A, continued its defense in the HOFEN - ALZEN area while the 24th Cavalry Squadron reconnoitered and maintained a screen farther south in protection of the Corps' right flank.

Artillery

1st Division: Observer from the 33rd FA Bn adjusted the 957th (155 H) and 195th (8" H) FA Bns on a railroad train loading alongside a factory. The effect was reported as go d with the railroad cut and all activity stopped. Other missions were 6 vehicle, 5 machine gun, 32 harassing, 7 registration, 2 pillboxes, 5 counterbattery, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended were 966.

9th Division: Fired 6 counterbattery, 61 harassing, 9 tank, 62 close support, 4 registrations, and 4 direct fire missions, expending 1389 rounds. Battery B, 991st FA Bn (155 G SP) fired four direct fire missions, employing single guns as follows:

A pillbox at range of 2200 yards, using 6 rounds of HE and 1 AP, 4 with M-51 delay fuze and 2 with concrete-piercing T-105, which resulted in 5 direct hits, 2 penetrating the box, which wad destroyed and all personnel killed.

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Another pillbox at range of 2400 yards, using 3 HE and 1 AP, 2 with M-51 delay fuze and 1 with CP T-105, which resulted in the AP round penetrating the box.

Against a steeple at 2400 yards 5 HE shells were fired, 3 with M-51 quick fuze and 2 with CP T-105, and the entire side of the steeple was blown away, and rendered useless as an enemy OP.

Two direct hits were scored on a large concrete shelter at 2800 yards, using 4 rounds Of HE, 3 with CP T-105 fuze and 1 with M-51 delay, causing a partial penetration.

3rd Armored Division: Fired approximately 500 rounds in close support and counterbattery missions. Massed fires of 3 light battalions on dug-in troops produced good results.

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armd FA Bn fired 8 interdiction and 3 direct support missions, expending 501 rounds of 105mm ammunition.

Corps: Fired 4 registration, 1 OP, 46 interdiction, and 29 counterbattery missions. Rounds expended: 1034. Three of the CB missions were adjusted and observed by the 9th Infantry Division Arty AOP. The air observer started each CB mission by reporting coordinates on the 1/25,000 map. The 195th FA Bn (8" H) fired all three missions. Adjustment was started by 1 gun and 2 battery volleys were fired for effect. No shifts greater than 100 yards were needed, and on the third mission fire for effect was given after the second rounds. Ranges were between 12,000 and 14,000 yards. An observer reported excellent results in the target area, with a large fire started at 1 battery position.

Antiaircraft: no action for the 24 hours period ending at 250600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 635th TD Bn fired 6 interdiction missions, expending 78 rounds of 75mm ammunition.

634th TD Bn fired 193 rounds of 3 inch, high explosive indirect fire. (Period: 220800 to 250800).

899th TD Bn fired 111 rounds of 3 inch, high explosive, and 116 rounds of 3 inch armor-piercing ammunition. Knocked out 1 Mk V tank, 7 pillboxes, 1 machine gun nest, 1 anti-tank gun, and 1 enemy OP.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 84.

25 SEPTEMBER 1944

A minor enemy attack was repulsed as Corps units maintained the same defense line while regrouping and maintenance was accomplished by some units. Stubborn enemy resistance continued from pillboxes. Other patrols maintained contact with the enemy by rpobing his lines in the vicinity of AACHEN (F-8443).

Enemy composed of the 1st Company, 860th Infantry Regiment, 347th Infantry Division, attempted to penetrate our lines northeast of LANDERSDORF at F-0032 in the zone of the 9th Division, but after a short battle the threat was repulsed with the enemy suffering heavy casualties. The enemy continued to react sharply

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The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, attached to Task Force Tincher continued to man roadblocks to the south and conduct active patrols. The 297th Combat Engineers, less 2 Companies, and 1 company of the 298th Engineers manned road blocks in the KONEGL FOREST. The 15th Engineer Battalion supported the Combat Teams and in addition to laying minefields, repairing bridges and sealing pillboxes, occupied squad defensive positions at K-948233 and platoon defensive positions at F-006415.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division continued to defend its defensive sector throughout the day. Combat Command Hickey remained in assembly area during the morning. During the afternoon the 1st Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, and 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, relieved Task Forces Mills and Hogan of Combat Command Boudinot of their defensive sector. Therrelief was effected at 1700 hours and Combat Command Boudinot assembled for rest and maintenance in the vicinity of BUSBACH and the area to the south of the town. The Division Reserve continued to hold the right sector of the Division front. Road blocks were maintained in the MAUSBACH area and the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion conducted patrolling through the Division zone during the day without incident.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Infantry Division, occupying positions to the east, southeast and southwest of AACHEN, continued to maintain its previous lines without change. Patrols were active throughout the vicinity in probing enemy lines in the direction of AACHEN. Company K, 18th Infantry, relieved Company K, 16th Infantry, at K-8844 and later Company K, 16th Infantry, relieved Company I, 18th Infantry at K-909431. I Company moved to the rear of Company L, 18th Infantry. There were no other changes throughout the Division sector.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Group continued to carry out its mission of protecting the Corps right flank. The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in conjunction with Task Force Tincher on its north (left flank) defended the HOFEN (K-9516) - ALZEN (K-9615) area, while the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron farther to the south carried out its screening mission and maintained contact with the 38th Cavalry Squadron of the V Corps.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 27 harassing, 16 infantry, 14 counterbattery, 3 vehicle, 3 mortar and machine gun, and 12 miscellaneous missions, expending 1175 rounds.

9th Division: Battery B, 991st Field Artillery Battalion (155mm gun, self-propelled) fired two direct fire missions, both at about 3000 yards range. The first target was a well dug-in pillbox; 3 rounds HE with fuze CP -T-105 achieved penetration. The second was a church steeple, the base of which was used as an aiming point. Hits were scored and the church burned. On both missions counterbattery was received within 15 minutes.

Other missions fired were 39 close support, 31 harassing, 5 tank, and 16 counterbattery. Rounds expended totaled 1536.

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to attempts of our patrols to reach the outskirts of AACHEN. The northern sector of the city of STOLBERG (K-9443) was still held by the enemy, and to the east of the city enemy forces were firmly entrenched on Hill 287. The enemy continued to vigorously patrol the GRESSENICH (K-9942) and MOFEN (K-0916) areas. Tactical reconnaissance reported much rail and vehicular activity moving northeast and northwest of AACHEN, while ground observation reported considerable rail and vehicular movement in the ESCHWEILER (K-9749) - LANGERWEHE (F-0347) area.

The weather continued unfavorable for Air activity and no missions were carried out.

On this date the first Summary Military Court in German convened at ROTGEN (K-9929) when enemy civilians offenders were tried by the 9th Infantry Division Military Government.

9th Infantry Division: Continued to hold positions and send out patrols. The 60th Infantry attacking to the east encountered enemy resistance, supported by self-propelled guns.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to hold positions and send out patrols. Rserve units continued maintenance and rehabilitation.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to patrol to the outskirts of AACHEN. Enemy patrols were also active in the Division zone.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the right flank of the Corps. An enemy infantry attack supported by artillery was repulsed.

9th Infantry Division

Weather conditions limited the operations of the 39th Infantry to reconnaissance patrols. The 1st Battalion held positions southeast of TODTEN-BRUCH at K-922313 - K-991323, while the 2nd and 3rd Battalionswere in the vicinity of LAMMERSDORF with the 2nd Battalion east of the town at K-984273, and the 3rd Battalion southeast of the town at K-973258. Company K held a position to the east of the rest of the Battalion at K-982265. The 1st Battalion of the 39th Infantry was later relieved by the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry. Other units of the 47th Infantry remained in defensive positions in the vicinity of the woods southeast of SCHEVENHUTTE.

During the early morning hours the enemy infiltrated through the lines of the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, and recaptured 2 pillboxes which had previously been cleaned out. At daylight the 1st Battalion undertook the mission of restoring the position. The attack was carried out against stiff resistance and by 1200 hours the pillboxes were recaptured. The Battalion continued its advance until 1800 hours to positions in the STAATS FORST, north of TODTEN-BRUCH at K-994330. The 3rd Battalion moved southwest to converge with the 1st Battalion and at about 1400 hours attacked to the southeast against stiff enemy resistance from infantry supported by self-propelled guns. At 1700 hours an enemy force of about 120 men made a counterattack, supported by artillery, against the left flank and rear of the 3rd Battalion. The attack was repelled by 1830 hours and the Battalion moved to positions west of TODTEN-BRUCH.

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6 SEPTEMBER 1944

The Corps advanced to the east, occupied HUY (2316) and strengthened its bridgehead across the MEUSE River between HOUX (9893) and GIVET (9275). Resistance to the 9th Division crossings continued, but by evening there were some indications of a withdrawal. Enemy opposing the 9th Division employed small arms, mortar and 20mm fire. Some machine gun emplacements still continued to hold out on the east bank of the river, concentrating their fire on the bridge sites. Sporadic artillery fire failed to stop the crossings or destroy the bridges.

Moderate resistance from AT and small arms fire was encountered by our armored column moving to the east and northeast of NAMUR. Mopping up continued in the MONS- BAVAI area as stragglers from a conglomeration of units continued to be rounded up. Prisoners captured during the period were 3481.

East of HERVE (K-6329) the road was reported by aerial reconnaissance to be jammed with horse drawn vehicles, motor transports, tanks and flank units all the way to the German border. In general the enemy front lines remained fluid with scattered groups still being mopped up.

DINANT was well fortified by the enemy with machine guns placed in strategic positions to cover the streets. In the fort a large number of machine guns were located on the lower level; in the upper level 47mm AT guns and a roving armored vehicle with 20mm guns were fired from several embrasures.

New units that were identified about this time were the 215th, 277th, 276th, 366th, 367th and 425th Infantry Divisions, the 6th Parachute Division, and the 12th SS Panzer Division. The 16th and 5th Security Regiments were also identified. Prisoners of war stated that the 277th Infantry Division was to be reformed at AACHEN. The 347th Infantry Division, also identified on this date, suffered heavy losses from attacks by patriots enroute to BELGIUM.

Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command in support of Corps troops reported the destruction of 15 motor transports, 2 armored vehicles, a half-track and jeep, and near HERVE destroyed 2 railroad cars. Fifteen others were damaged and two locomotives and a train strafed at K-6823 which produced a large explosion.

9th Infantry Division: Continued to expand its bridgeheads across the MEUSE River against well organized and determined resistance.

3rd Armored Division: Advanced east from NAMUR on both sides of the MEUSE River to secure its intermediate objective of the bridges and town of HUY.

1st Infantry Division: RCT 16 completed mopping up south of MONS (3112) while the larger portion of the Division moved to an assembly area nearCHARLEROI.

4th Cavalry Group: Remained in assembly areas near FALEN (908908) and in the vicinity of WAVOYE (898853), preparatory to crossing the MEUSE River in the zone of the 9th Infantry Division.

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west on the left of the Division zone. Patrols were active and maintained contact with the enemy by probing his lines toward AACHEN.

4th Cavalry Group

Defense of the HOFEN - ALZEN area was continued by the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in conjunction with Task Force Tincher. A slight enemy thrust at 2100 hours was repulsed by small arms and supporting artillery fire. Mortar and harassing enemy artillery fire of medium calibre fell along the line at 2230 hours but at the close of the period the Group reported all was quiet.

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued its screening and patrolling missions to the south on the extreme right of the Corps zone and maintained contact with units of the V Corps on our right. The 759th Light Tank Battalion continued mounted patrolling between BUTGENBACH (K-9104) and KALTERHERBERG (K-9411) and east at ELSENBORN (K-9208) with no contact with the enemy.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 37 harassing, 28 infantry, 20 counterbattery, 14 vehicle, 3 tank, 3 pillbox, and 32 miscellaneous missions, expending a total of 2340 rounds.

9th Division: An Air OP made a precision adjustment on a 150 or 170mm gun with the 981st Field Artillery Battalion (155mm gun). Observer reported two direct hits and the area effectively covered. The range was 17,000 yards. Other missions fired were 62 harassing, 49 close support, 10 counterbattery, 6 preparation, and 1 tank, expending 1811 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 10 interdiction, 8 harassing, 8 registration, 7 enemy gun, 5 infantry, 4 mortar, 4 fortified houses, 4 assembly area, 2 OP, and 2 AT gun missions. Rounds expended: 1013.

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armd FA Bn fired 1 registration, 12 interdiction, 1 preparation, 2 direct support and 1 harassing mission, expending 341 rounds of 105mm ammunition.

Corps: 980th FA Bn (155 G) while adjusting on an enemy battery at a range of 14,000 yards, obtained a hit with the second round on some ammunition causing large explosions. Two battalion volleys were fired for effect and a direct hit was scored on one gun. The mission was observed by an Air OP of the 1st Infantry Division Artillery.

Other missions fired were 53 interdiction, 38 counterbattery, 8 registration, 2 tank, 1 SS barracks , and 1 target marking. Rounds expended were 1359.

Antiaircraft: Two enemy aircraft entered the Corps zone on separate sneak raids, and although no claims of enemy planes destroyed were made by our AA, no damage was caused to the defended areas.

Tank Destroyers: 635th TD Bn fired 1 registration, and 5 interdiction missions, expending 282 rounds of 75mm ammunition.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 131.

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4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion fired 519 rounds of 105mm ammunition in executing 9 interdiction, 1 harassing, and 5 direct support missions.

Corps: 195th Field Artillery Battalion (8" Howitzer) was adjusted by a 1st Division Artillery observer on a railroad siding on which boxcars were being loaded from a factory. Adjustment was made with 1 round; fire for effect was 3 battery volleys. The observer reported good effect with all activity stopped and the siding no longer useable.

Other missions were 60 interdiction, 16 counterbattery, and 9 registration with 1036 rounds of ammunition expended.

Antiaircraft: The 109th AAA Gp reported no activity for the 24 hour period ending 250600.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 83 rounds HE indirect fire.

635th TD Bn fired 89 rounds of 75mm on 7 interdiction missions.

703rd TD Bn fired 138 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on targets in ESCHWEILER and STOLBERG areas.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 182.

26 SEPTEMBER 1944

A limited objective attack was launched to reduce pillboxes in the SIEGFRIED LINE in one sector of the Corps zone while in another a small enemy counter-thrust of artillery supported infantry was beaten off. Otherwise, there were no changes in our lines during the period as all units continued their defensive mission.

Enemy activity along the Corps front other than the counter-attack in the HOFEN (K-9516) - ALZEN (K-9615) area was confined to patrolling and sporadic artillery fire while his defensive positions remained unchanged throughout the period. Enemy outposts were encountered south and east of AACHEN (K-8413) and the northern sector of STOLBERG (K-9344) remained in enemy hands. Vigorous enemy patrolling countinued in the vicinity of GRESSENICH (K-9942) and pillbox defenses were stubbornly defended in the area north and east of LAMMERSDORF (K-9726). Heavy enemy vehicular activity was reported in the area HAAREM (K-9745) VORWEIDEN (K-9048) - ESCHWEILER (K-9747) at 2000 hours and much enemy activity was heard in STOLBERG and GRESSENICH.

Planes of the IX Tactical Air Command in support of VII Corps destroyed 2 Me 109's, damaged a third, and probably destroyed two more enemy craft in addition to knocking out 3 locomotives operating in the Corps zone. Other air missions carried out included the harassing of shipping on the RHINE River with between 30 and 40 barges attacked, and a number of gun positions and buildings used as strong points.

9th Infantry Division: Continued to hold positions and send out patrols. The 60th Infantry attacked to the east, meeting enemy infantry supported by self-propelled guns.

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3rd Armored Division: Continued to hold positions and send out patrols. Intermittent artillery and mortar fire fell in the Division zone.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to patrol to the outskirts of AACHEN from its position to the east, southeast and southwest of the city. Enemy artillery fire fell along the Division zone throughout the period.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the right flank of the Corps.

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Infantry continued active patrolling along the front and flanks of its zone on the right of the Division sector, making enemy contact at all points. Longrange artillery fire fell along the Regimental front. LAMMERSDORF received a heavy concentration at 1700 hours which lasted for 45 minutes. Noan while the 47th Infantry on the left held its defensive positions and conducted active patrolling throughout the period.

In the center of the Division zone the 60th Infantry attacked eastward to reduce road blocks and pillboxes. The 3rd Battalion and the attached 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, moved to the LD at 0830. The 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, was delayed by strongly defended road blocks at K-989318 in the STAATS FOREST, west of TODTENBRUCH, and long-range heavy artillery fire. The 3rd Battalion was also delayed by strong enemy patrols and self-propelled gun fire. This Battalion moved around the rear of the 1st Battalion to contact the left flank of the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry. The 1st Battalion was then pinched out, and at 1630 hours the battalions were in position to assault the pillbox. Companies A and B were moved to positions on the hills at K-989139 and K-991312, respectively, and no further progress was made during the day. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry was at K-992312, the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, at K-994330, and the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry at K-999-325 - all in the vicinity of TODTEN-BRUCH.

Task Force Tincher, 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry reinforced, continued to operate on the right flank patrolling and holding road blocks in conjunction with the 4th Cavalry Group on the extreme right of the Corps.

3rd Armored Division

Defensive positions were maintained by the 3rd Armored Division throughout the period. Combat Command Hickey had no change in disposition during the day. Task Force Kane held the western sector of the Division zone, conducting patrolling against an unchanged enemy situation. Task Force Orr of the Division Reserve held the eastern sector of the Division zone. Combat Command Boudinot remained in assembly positions and conducted maintenance in all units. The only enemy activity was that of his artillery which continued intermittently during the day. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion patrolled roads throughout the area.

1st Infantry Division

All three regiments of the 1st Infantry Division continued to hold their defensive positions in the vicinity of AACHEN. The 16th Infantry was east of the city with the 26th Infantry southeast, and the 18th Infantry to the south-

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sector of the Division zone, vicinity of BUSBACH (K-9340). Task Force Kane drew heavy mortar in the vicinity of STOLBERG. This enemy fire was believed to have come from due north and was observed. The Division Reserve which continued to hold positions in the right sector of the Division zone, conducted active patrols. Combat Command Boudinot continued maintenance and refitting operations in its assembly area, while the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion patrolled roads throughout the Division zone.

1st Infantry Division

All units of the 1st Infantry Division remained in defensive positions that circled AACHEN on three sides from the east, southeast and southwest. Active patrolling maintained contact with the enemy, but there was no change in the lines throughout the period. Light enemy artillery fire fell through the zone which was counterbatteried by the Division Artillery.

4th Cavalry Group

There was no change in the 4th Cavalry Group during the period in carrying out its defense of the HOFEN (K-9516) - ALZEN (K-9615) area and protecting the right flank of the Corps by active patrolling and maintaining road blocks.

Artillery

1st Div: Fired 48 harassing, 26 infantry, 19 enemy gun, 14 vehicle, 8 CPs and OPs, 3 tanks, and 18 miscellaneous missions. Rounds expended: 2229.

9th Div: Btry B, 991st FA Bn (155 G SP) fired two indirect fire missions on large concrete pillboxes at approximately 4500 yards range. On the first 12 direct hits were scored out of 20 rounds fired and definite penetrations were achieved. On the second 8 hits were scored out of 14 rounds, and visible portions of the concrete were damaged. The M-12 was emplaced in a 30° railroad cut and fired for 54 minutes without receiving the counterbattery usually experienced in recent direct fire missions. Other missions fired were 72 close support, 47 harassing, 10 mortar and machine gun, 8 counterbattery, 1 preparation, and 2 tank. Rounds expended: 2204.

3rd Armd Div: An observer from the 67th Armd FA Bn adjusted the 195th FA Bn (8" H) on a large building containing an enemy CP at 7500 yards range. Of the 9 rounds fired for effect 8 were target hits and the building was destroyed. Organic and attached battalions fired the following missions: 17 close support, 8 registration, 8 harassing and interdiction, 3 counterbattery, 2 CPs, 1 fortified position, 1 mortar, 1 vehicle, and 1 AT gun. Rounds expended were 1404.

4th Cav Gp: 87th Armd FA Bn fired 12 interdiction missions, 1 preparation, 1 CP, 1 patrol, and 1 registration, expending 341 rounds.

Corps: The 195th FA Bn (8" H) was adjusted by a 1st Division Artillery Air OP on a concrete emplacement used as an OP. Of 11 rounds fired, 4 direct hits were scored blowing the top off the emplacement and knocking down a tower used as an OP. The range was 13,000 yards. Other missions fired were: 46 interdiction, 34 counterbattery, 7 infantry, 5 registration, 5 harassing, 2 tank and vehicle, 1 CP, and 1 pillbox -- an expenditure of 1294 rounds.

Antiaircraft: No action was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 270600.

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Tank Destroyer: 634th TD Bn expended 8 rounds of 3" AP and 20 rounds of 3" HE direct fire. Neutralized 1 machine gun nest and 1 pillbox. Also fired 89 rounds of 3" HE indirect unobserved fire. Firing was handled by the 7th FA Bn by their FDC.

635th TD Bn fired 8 interdiction and 1 registration missions, expending 142 rounds of 75 mm ammunition.

703rd TD Bn expended 270 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire on targets in the vicinty of ESCHWEILER and STOLBERG.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 92

28 SEPTEMBER 1944

Units of the Corps held all positions, maintaining contact with the enemy by active patrolling in all sectors except the 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments, where local maneuvering was carried out with no material change in the front lines. There were no enemy counterattacks during the period.

Enemy vehicular activity in the area northeast of AACHEN (K-8443) was heavy throughout the period with 42 loaded personnel carriers observed moving west between ST. JORIS (K-9249) and VORWEIDEN (K-8948) at 1655 hours. When last seen this convoy was headed north toward LINDEN (K-9049). Enemy defensive positions remained unchanged. Our patrols made contact with the enemy south of AACHEN and in the STOLBERG (K-9344) - GRESSENICH (K-9942) area. The stubborn defense of pillbox fortifications continued northeast and east of LAUERSDORF (K-9726). Contact was also made with enemy patrols east of HOFEN (K-9516).

The G-2 estimate of the enemy strength opposing the First Army at this time was 90,000 troops with the greatest bulk of his force facing the VII Corps' long front where 35,000 enemy were estimated to be concentrated. Enemy forces known to have been on our front at this time consisted of elements of the following units estimated at the strength shown:

116th Panzer Division (1900), 12th Infantry Division (4500), 9th Panzer Division, reported to have been in the process of reorganizing, (700), 353rd Infantry Division (500), 347th Infantry Division (200), 526th Mobilization Division (3500), 105th Panzer Brigade (1000), and miscellaneous units (1000) -- 13,300. Immediate enemy reserves were placed at 22,500, making a total strength of 35,800. The Reserve force consisted of the remainder of the previously named units. Besides these various indentified units it was believed that many civilians were being pressed into arms for para-military organizations or miscellaneous replacement battalions.

Of these enemy forces approximately 6,000 were in AACHEN and the vicinity of the city with a battalion of SS troops in thecenter of AACHEN. Inaddition to the units previously mentioned, the 62nd Artillery Training Regiment and the 34th Machine Gun Battalion were also manning the defenses of the city.

Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command carried outh three close support missions for the 9th Infantry Division with excellent results in attacks on pillboxes and other strong points. Armed reconnaissance flights were carried out against railroad trains in Germany in the Corps zone.

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While most Corps Troops continued to hold defensive positions and maintain contact with the enemy by active patrolling, the 9th Division continued to launch limited objective attacks to gradually roll up the flanks of the SIEGFRIED LINE penetration and made small gains against pillbox defenses.

There was no change in the enemy front line, and enemy defensive positions remained the same throughout the period with enemy patrols active along the entire front. Sporadic artillery fire continued on forward elements of the Corps with an increase in the number of enemy self-propelled guns reported in the area east of GRESSENICH (K-9942) and LAMMERSDORF (K-9726). Enemy anti-tank fire was met east of STOLBERG (K-9344).

9th Infantry Division: 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments attacked to reduce pillbox defenses, and the 47th Infantry maintained defensive positions and conducted active patrolling.

3rd Armored Division: Held all positions while conducting patrols. Some units continued in assembly areas for rest periods and rehabilitation.

1st Infantry Division: Held all positions and continued to patrol to the outskirts of AACHEN (K-8413) where the enemy also patrolled actively.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the Corps right flank and maintain road blocks and contact with the enemy.

9th Infantry Division

After being relieved of its defensive position by the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, attached to the 60th Infantry, Company G, 39th Infantry, attacked to the southwest without opposition to reach positions in the vicinity of K-990286, east of SCHMIDT. Fire breaks in the wood s were blocked by felled trees and minefields. Other units of the 39th Infantry held defensive positions and patrolled actively to maintain contact with the enemy.

To the left of the 39th Infantry in the center of the Division zone, the 60th Infantry attacked to the south at 0830 with its 3rd Battalion and the attached 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry. Companies A and B of the 39th Infantry, advanced to within 400 yards of the objective at K-991316 where they were stopped by fire from enemy infantry and tanks. No further movement was made. The 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry on the left (east) flank captured one pillbox. A second pillbox was assaulted and a number of prisoners taken, but due to the fact that that the supporting armor became mired down, the box was not captured. The 1st Battalion remained in reserve in its same position and reorganized. The 2nd Battalion was attached to Task Force Timcher.

Active patrolling was conducted by the 47th Infantry on the Division left as it continued to hold its defensive line and maintain contact with the enemy in its sector southeast of GRESSENICH. Task Force Timcher continued to operate to the south of the 39th Infantry zone and maintained road blocks and patrols.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division continued to hold its sector throughout the period. Combat Command Hickey reported no change in its disposition in the western

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28 September

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9th Infantry Division: The 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments maneuvered locally for advantageous positions from which to attack pillboxes. The 47th held without change and conducted active patrolling.

3rd Armored Division: Task Force Lovelady of Combat Command Boudinot replaced Task Force Orr, Division Reserve, in the right (east) sectoreof the Division zone. Otherwise there were no changes in positions of units.

1st Infantry Division: Continued patrol activity with no changes in positions of units.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the right flank of the Corps along the general line in the MONSCHAU FORST (K-990122 - F-011110 - F-009985).

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Infantry attacked at 0800 hours with F and G Companies leading the assault. Company E moved to the left (north) flank to the position vacated by Company F. The 2nd Battalion encountered small arms and machine gun fire, particularly in crossing the draw west of ROLLESBROICH in the vicinity of K-987272 in the zone of Company F. Heavy fire was also encountered from the east and northeast after Company G had crossed the dam. The 3rd Battalion moved to the left flank to maintain contact with Company E. At the close of the period the 39th Infantry units were deployed as follows, including the 1st Battalion which reverted to Regimental control at 1400: 1st Battalion was south of FINKENBUR (K-950287), the 2nd Battalion was northeast of LAMMERSDORF at K-983271-993283, and the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of PAUSTENBACH at K-975254 - 985265.

In the center of the Division zone, the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, attacked at 0930 following a 10 minute artillery preparation to reduce a strong point in the vicinity of K-991316. The attack was supported by the fire of the attached 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, from positions on the right (west) flank and by tanks and tank destroyers, which closed on the enemy from the west firing point blank at enemy gun positions. The 3rd Battalion made slow progress against strong resistance from tank, artillery and mortar fire, but by 1130 hours Company H reached the objective, and by 1230 the Battalion had occupied and secured it. At 1400 the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, was relieved from attachment, and moved but to rejoin the 39th Infantry at 1600 hours, closing in its assembly area south of FINENBUR at 1700. Final positions of the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 60th Infantry, were respectively in the STAATS FORST at K-995333 - K-995328 and southeast of LAMMERSDORF at K-975254 - 985265. The 297th Engineer Combat Battalion continued to hold defensive positions between the 60th and 47th Infantry Regiments in the KONIGL FORST, northwest of HURTGEN at F-01039 - F-006338.

The 47th Infantry on the left of the Division zone continued to hold defensive positions and actively patrol to maintain contact with the enemy. The 1st Battalion remained south of GRESSENICH at K-986427 - 998419, the 2nd Battalion held in the GRESSENICHER WALD along the line F-008418 -019409, and the 3rd Battalion remained in the vicinity of SCHEVENHUTTE with positions from F-002425 - K-993316.

Task Force Tincher (2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, reinforced continued its patrolling and road block defenses to the south in the vicinity of MONSCHAU. All defensive positions and road blocks were held, and contact maintained with the enemy.

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3rd Armored Division

Task Force Lovelady of Combat Command Boudinot relieved Task Force Orr, Division Reserve, as Combat Command Boudinot assumed responsibility for the right sector of the Division zone. The relief of Task Force Orr was completed by 1745 hours. One Tank Company of the Command was held in readiness to support the 9th Infantry Division. Meanwhile, Combat Command Hickey continued to hold the left sector of the Division zone and moved one tank company to be prepared to support the 1st Infantry Division. Road blocks were held at STOLBERG and MAUSBACH. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued security and reconnaissance patrols within the Division area throughout the period.

1st Infantry Division

In the zone of the 1st Infantry Division on the left of the Corps area, there were no changes as the 16th Infantry held its positions to the east of AACHEN, the 26th Infantry remained in positions southeast of the city, and the 18th Infantry continued to hold to the west and southwest of the town. All three Regiments maintained contact with the enemy through active patrolling. An increase in enemy artillery fire fell in the Division zone, and sound and flash locations enabled the Division Artillery to counterbattery effectively.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued its defense of the HOFEN (K-9516) - ALZEN (K-9615) area in conjunction with Task Force Tincher, 9th Infantry Division, on its left (north) while the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued to screen to the south and maintain road blocks. Enemy patrols were also active in the area of the 24th Cavalry, but were driven off by our fire. The 759th Light Tank Battalion continued its mission of patrolling the area between BUTGENBACH (K-9104) - KALTERHERBERG (K-9411) and east to ELSENBORN (K-9208).

Artillery

1st Division: Fired the following missions: 41 harassing, 26 infantry, 11 counterbattery, 6 convoys, 2 mess lines, 2 OPs, 2 mortar and machine gun, and 1 pillbox. Rounds expended: 2321.

9th Division: Fired 35 harassing, 13 counterbattery, 9 mortar and machine gun, 4 pillbox, 2 preparation, and 51 other close support missions, expending 2288 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 10 registration, 9 harassing, 6 infantry, 4 supply dump, 4 TOTs on assembly areas, 3 infantry in houses, 5 enemy batteries, 3 vehicles, 1 fortified house, 1 OP, and 1 interdiction, expending a total of 1133 rounds.

4th Cavalry Group: 15 interdiction, 2 registrations, 1 preparation, 1 harassing, and 3 direct support missions, were fired by the 87th Armd FA Bn, expending a total of 690 rounds of 105mm ammunition.

Corps: Fired the following missions: 15 interdiction, 14 counterbattery, 11 registration, 7 harassing, 2 preparation (TOT), and 1 enemy vehicle, expending 526 rounds.

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Antiaircraft: No activity was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 280600.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 205 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire.

635th TD Bn fired 5 interdiction and 1 direct support missions, expending 180 rounds of 75mm ammunition.

899th TD Bn (Period 270800 to 280800 Sept 44) expended 20 rounds of 3" APC and 10 rounds 3" HE direct fire. Knocked out 2 Mk V tanks, and 1 pillbox. 60th FA Air OP aided in the destruction of the two tanks by keeping the enemy tanks under direct observation, and by informing the tank destroyers of hostile tank activity. A Company fired 10 3" AP and 5 rounds of HE direct fire, knocking out 1 SP 105mm gun on Mk III chasis and 1 pillbox.

Prisoners of War Captured by the Corps: 69.

29 SEPTEMBER 1944

The only activity on the Corps front other than patrolling occured in the zone of the 9th Division where the 39th Infantry continued to gradually roll up the flanks of the SIEGFRIED LINE penetration by piecemeal cleaning out pillbox defenses and enemy units.

Likewise the bulk of enemy activity was confined to light patrolling. Enemy artillery fire varied in intensity from light and sporadic in the AACHEN (K-8413) area to heavy and harassing east of GRESSENICH (K-9942) where an increase in the amount of 150mm fire was reported. Enemy defensive positions in the area AACHEN STOLBERG (K-9344) - GRESSENICH remained unchanged. Self-propelled guns and tanks were used as close in artillery support for pillboxes in the LAMMERSDORF (K-9726) sector. Enemy patrols were contacted east and southeast of HOFEN (K-9516).

In support of the 9th Infantry Division the IX Tactical Air Command conducted four planned missions, dive bombing strong points with excellent results. Two groups of fighter-bombers also dive bombed and strafed an area in the vicinity of ATSCH (K-9244) to break up a suspected counter-attack. Medium bombers pounded the railway and communication center at BUSKIRCHEN (F-3229) with good results and also bombed targets in the V and XIX Corps zones.

9th Infantry Division: While the 39th Infantry was reducing pillboxes in the SIEGFRIED LINE, the 60th and 47th Infantry Regiments held their defensive positions and maintained contact with the enemy by patrolling. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion relieved the 297th Engineer Battalion in their sector between the 60th and 47th Infantry.

3rd Armored Division: Maintained all positions and reported no enemy activity.

1st Infantry Division: Maintained light contact with the enemy. Elements of the 1106th Engineer Combat Group joined the 18th Infantry preparatory to relieving the Regiment in that sector.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued its patrolling mission on the Corps right flank.

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9th Infantry Division

Due to insufficient notice of the TOT the 9th Division was unable to put into effect a deception plan of artillery fire to precede the attack of the 39th Infantry. When informed that the TOT was to be at 0805 the following artillery plan was carried out in conjunction with the aerial bombing which took place from 0833 to 0843: 0850 to 0915- preparation fire (732) rounds); 0925 to 0935-preparatory fire (1404 rounds) plus 8 inch howitzer fire on pillboxes (40 rounds); 0940 to 1005- counterbattery (216 rounds).

The attack of the 39th Infantry began at 0935. Companies F and G attacking southeast to secure the main road north of ROLLERSBROICH (F-0027) that traversed their zone, were heavily engaged throughout the day, but by 2000 hours had reached positions beyond the road along the strip of woods parallel to the canyon along the general line: K-990273- 993285. The 3rd Battalion attacked toward BRICKERATH (K-9724) with Companies I and K making the main effort. Company L made a holding attack on the right to secure the balance of the high ground. In the course of this action 5 pillboxes and about 100 prisoners were taken. Two tanks were knocked out taking a strong point on the hill in the vicinity of K-979252. At the close of the period the 3rd Battalion held positions northeast of BRICKRATH along the general line: K-973255-980255. Company A moved to cover the gap between the 2nd and 3rd Battalions and was deployed along the line K-983265- 979261 981257. The 2nd Battalion held positions northeast of LAMMERSDORF at K-993280, and the remainder of the 1st Battalion remained in reserve, south of FINKENBUR, in the vicinity of K-950288.

In supporting the attack of the 39th Infantry, the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, made a diversionary attack at 0820 hours. The attack consisted of small arms action with mortar and artillery preparation. The 1st Battalion remained in the same position reorganizing, and the 2nd Battalion remained attached to Task Force Tincher. Meanwhile the 47th Infantry remained in defensive positions on the Divisions left and continued routine patrolling throughout the period, and Task Force Tincher continued to patrol to the south in the MONSCHAU area.

Other Units

With the exception of the 1106th Engineer Combat Group moving into the zone of the 18th Infantry, 1st Division, there were no other changes in VII Corps troops during the period. Armored and cavalry units maintained defensive positions and patrolled to made light contact with the enemy.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired the following missions: 38 harassing, 26 infantry, 10 counterbattery, 8 motor columns, 5 CPs, 4 mortar and machine gun, and 16 miscellaneous. The 38 harassing missions were fired simultaneously at five different times during the night in addition to normal irregular intervals. Rounds expended: 2073.

9th Division: Fired the following missions: 1 preparation (2-105H, 3-155H, 1-4.5G, and 1-155G bns were used) 9 counterbattery, 20 harassing, 11 pillbox, 8 mortar and machine gun, 3 tank, and 55 other close support missions. Btry B, 991st FA Bn (155G SP) fired two indirect fire missions on pillboxes with very good effect. The first was a small cupola type pillbox on which 3 direct hits and several ricochet hits were scored out of 24 rounds fired. Range was 4,500

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yards and adjustment was difficult due to friendly artillery smoke. The second was a large pillbox at a range of 3900 yards on which 8 hits were scored out of 16 rounds fired. Rounds fired by the Division Artillery during the period: 4292.

3rd Armored Division: Fired the following missions: 15 infantry, 7 strong point, 5 counterbattery, 4 registration, 2 supply column, and 2 AT guns. Rounds expended: 1513.

4th Cavalry Group: Fired 16 interdiction, 1 preparation, and 6 direct support missions, expending a total of 749 rounds of 105mm ammunition.

Corps: Fired 21 counterbattery, 23 interdiction, and 3 registration. Rounds expended were 562. Of the counterbattery missions 2 were located by the flash bases of the 13th FA Obsn Bn. Two battalions were fired on the location with excellent results reported.

Antiaircraft: The 109th AAA Gp reported two enemy planes were engaged by the 474th AAA AW Bn, but no claims were made by our AA.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn expended 788 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire. The 635th TD Bn fired 195 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire. The 899th TD Bn expended 17 rounds of 3" APC and 7 rounds of 3" HE direct fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 104.

30 SEPTEMBER 1944

Corps units maintained defensive positions and conducted routine patrolling while awaiting orders to attack. A small enemy counter-attack was beaten off in the zone of the 39th Infantry. This Regiment also occupied two more pillboxes during the day. Unfavorable weather which would not permit air support continued to delay the new offensive.

Other than the attack in the zone of the 39th Infantry, northeast of LAMMERSDORF (K-9726), enemy activity was restricted to patrolling and his defensive positions in the Corps zone of action remained unchanged. Light enemy artillery fire fell in the zone of the 1st Division. The road block in STOLBERG (K-9343) received heavy artillery fire, and the attack in the LAMMERSDORF sector was supported by 75 and 105mm artillery pieces.

9th Infantry Division: While the 60th and 47th Infantry Regiments maintained contact with the enemy by active patrolling, the 39th Infantry repulsed and enemy counter-attack without loss of ground.

3rd Armored Division: Maintained all positions with only one enemy patrol contact.

1st Infantry Division: Light patrol contact was maintained with the enemy.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued patrolling mission on the right flank of the Corps.

9th Infantry Division

During the early morning patrols from the 39th Infantry found two pillboxes

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and one machine gun emplacement unoccupied and secured them. Activity during the day consisted of routine patrolling in the zone of the 39th Infantry. Beginning at 1915 hours heavy artillery fire was received in the zone of the 3rd Battalion and Company G areas. When this preparatory fire lifted, the enemy opened up with small arms and machine guns and in the G Company sector the enemy moved in to the top of the knoll at K-993281, forcing most of the Company to fall back to the vicinity of K-990283, behind the lake. This attack was successfully repulsed by a heavy concentration of artillery fire, although the enemy artillery and mortar fire continued on a reduced scale. At 2203 enemy activity with light infantry weapons flared up again, but by 2322 hours it had quieted down. The attacking force of the enemy was estimated at about 300.

The 47th and 60th Infantry Regiments held their defensive positions and conducted routine patrolling. Engineers destroyed 5 pillboxes and removed mines in the area and the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion manned road blocks and platoon defensive positions between the 47th and 60th Infantry Regiments.

Other Units

There was no change of positions in the zone of the 3rd Armored Division and enemy activity was restricted to patrolling and intermittent artillery and mortar fire in the forward areas. The 1st Infantry Division continued to maintain positions to the east, southeast and southwest of AACHEN (K-8443) without the loss of ground. The 1106th Engineer Combat Group attached to the 18th Infantry continued to improve defensive positions. On the extreme right of the Corps zone the 4th Cavalry Group continued to maintain light contact with the enemy by patrolling and carried out its defense of the HOFEN (K-9516) ALSEN (K-9615) area.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 43 harassing, 16 personnel, 4 mortar, 4 CP, 3 counterbattery, 2 tank, 2 pillbox and 40 miscellaneious missions. Rounds expended: 1790.

9th Division: Fired 38 harassing, 17 counterbattery, 12 mortar and machine gun, 2 tank and 46 other close support missions. Rounds expended: 2980.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 17 harassing, 11 infantry, 4 interdiction, 2 registration, 2 counterbattery, and 2 missions on a mine laying party. The mine laying party was adjusted by FO of the 391st Armd FA Bn who reported excellent results. A FO from the 67th Armd FA Bn adjusted the 195th FA Bn "8" H) on an enemy CP in a house. Three direct hits were obtained and the house destroyed.

4th Cavalry Group: Fired 16 interdiction, and 2 close support missions, expending 410 rounds.

Antiaircraft: No action was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 300600. AA claims for September were 25 catagory I, and 21 catagory II, making the total to date for the Group 143 since D-day. One "flying bomb" was also destroyed.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 192 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire on targets in the vicinity of AACHEN.

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30 September

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703rd TD Bn expended 109 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire on targets in the vicinity of STOLBERG and ESCHWEILER.

899th TD Bn expended 16 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire.

635th TD Bn fired 8 interdiction missions expending 175 rounds.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 113.

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
A. P. O. 307, U.S.Army

K

5 September 1944

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

ASSIGNMENT	NAME	RANK	ASN	BRANCH	COMPONENT
COMMANDING GENERAL	J LAWTON COLLINS	Maj Gen	05247	USA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	HERMAN W W LANGE	Maj	023402	FA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	JOHN J WALSH	Capt	0391208	FA	RES
CORPS ARTY COMMANDER	WILLISTON B PALMER	Brig Gen	012246	USA	RA
Asst Arty Commander	LEMUEL MATHEWSON	Col	014980	FA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	WILLIAM W MAXEY	2d Lt	01175792	FA	AUS
CHIEF OF STAFF	RICHARD G McKEE	Col	011217	GSC	RA
Deputy Chief of Staff	HOWARD S SEARLE	Col	0123165	GSC	NG
Deputy CofS Operations	RICHARD C FARTRIDGE	Col	012630	GSC	RA
Liaison Off	GIBSON S PETERSON	Maj	0363994	Cav	RES
Liaison Off	WALTER W DILLARD	Capt	0327063	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JOHN R HOLLINSHEAD	Capt	0327349	CE	RES
Liaison Off	(1)JAMES C JOHNSON	Capt	0304772	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES W GORMAN	Capt	0285768	FA	RES
Liaison Off	(1)JOCOB L CONNERS	Capt	01000338	AGD	AUS
Liaison Off	JOSEPH B KILLGORE	1st Lt	0392409	FA	RES
Liaison Off	NELSON C EATON	1st Lt	0453443	FA	AUS
Liaison Off	(1)GEORGES PAGACHE	Aspirant			
Chief Clerk	WILLIAM B MADDOCK	WOJG	W2131234	USA	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-1	JOHN D HIGGINS	Col	0152349	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	EDWARD M FRIEND Jr	Lt Col	0310219	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE E FOWLES	Maj	0309703	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE M RISER	Capt	0228767	FA	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	(1)ELBERT E LASHER	2d Lt	01011104	Inf	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-2	LESLIE D CARTER	Col	010663	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2	DAVID B GOODWIN	Lt Col	021914	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2 (Air O)	WILLIAM C JESSE	Maj	0304912	Cav	NG
Asst A C of S G-2	KENNETH L HOUSTON	Maj	0326319	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	CARL J WILSON	Capt	0383386	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	HERBERT F CLARK	1st Lt	01293912	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	IGNANCE L EPHRUSSI	2d Lt	0574526	AC	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	CHARLES J BRUCKEN	2d Lt	01002589	AGD	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	PRESTON M MORTWARD	WOJG	W2131280	USA	AUS
	OB UNIT NO 6				
	(1)ALEXANDER [illegible]	1st Lt	01296983	Inf	AUS
	PI TEAM NO 10				
	(1)LOUIS [illegible]	Capt	01045664	CAC	AUS
	(1)MORRIS GLASS	1st Lt	01[illegible]	Inf	AUS

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
5 Sep 1944 continued.

	PI TEAM NO 29				
	(1)THOMAS R CORREAL	1st Lt	01110429	CE	AUS
	(1)PATSY M MIRAGLIA	1st Lt	01591321	QMC	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 16				
	(1)HARRY B FIELD	1st Lt	01184045	FA	AUS
	(1)MAX SCHLOSSBERG	2d Lt	01182701	FA	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 31				
	(1)WALTER GUNTHER Jr	1st Lt	01045763	CAC	AUS
	(1)OSCAR H RECHTSCHAFFEN	1st Lt	01323738	Inf	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 44				
	(1)ADAM J EISENHAUER	Capt	0393829	CAC	RES
	(1)PETER J LERT	1st Lt	01032594	Cav	AUS
	MI TEAM NO 414				
	(1)CHARLES G WHITING	1st Lt	0514736	FA	RES
	(1)ALEX MOORE	1st Lt	02040963	AUS	AUS
	MI TEAM NO 419				
	(1)PIERRE P LaBRECHE	1st Lt	01303258	Inf	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-3	ORLANDO C TROXEL Jr	Col	018487	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-3 (Air O)	THURSTON T PAUL Jr	Lt Col	0342848	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT J ROSA	Maj	0352011	Cav	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	BERGIN V DICKEY	Maj	0360244	Inf	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	JOHN W STARK	Maj	0380508	CAC	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	NED R DICKSON	Capt	0389040	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	FRANCIS B MOBLEY Jr	Capt	0390599	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	(1)ROLAND G RUPPENTHAL	Capt	01309100	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-3	NICHOLAS McINTIRE	2d Lt	01049982	CAC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-4	JAMES G ANDING	Col	015677	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-4	THOMAS N FIGUERS	Lt Col	0398172	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-4	(1)WILLIS H ROSS	Maj	0270426	CE	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	LEA C ROBERTS	Maj	0349693	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	IRA J HOLTON	Maj	0453734	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	(1)ALFRED F MOFFITT	Capt	0386233	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	JACK W WEEDEN	1st Lt	01290691	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	EVERT HEATH	1st Lt	01304211	Inf	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-5	DELL B HARDIN	Col	0171321	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	FRANK H McFARLAND	Lt Col	0190171	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	STRATFORD E McKENRICK	Maj	0328055	FA	NG
ADJUTANT GENERAL	LAWTON BUTLER	Col	016921	AGD	RA
Asst AG	JACKSON C RAINES	Lt Col	0264141	AGD	RES
Asst AG	ROBERT J SMITH	Maj	0348305	AGD	NG
Asst AG	FRED O BERGMAN	Capt	01000913	AGD	AUS
Postal Off	(3)JAMES A DOLAN	1st Lt	01297855	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	EARL M WILLIAMS	CWO	W2114245	USA	AUS
Asst AG	(2)CARL A ALIFANO	WOJG	W2109898	USA	AUS

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
5 Sep 1944 continued.

5th MRU (")

Asst AG	HAROLD K DOWNEY	Capt	01283046	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	FRANCIS L GUILFOYLE	1st Lt	01001796	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	WILLIAM H MUSSER Jr	1st Lt	01002998	AGD	AUS
INSPECTOR GENERAL	JOHN W NICHOLSON	Col	05608	IGD	RA
Asst IG	MILES N CULEMAN	Lt Col	0132387	IGD	NG
Asst IG	ROBERT L SNYDER	Maj	0303549	IGD	RES
Asst IG	LEONARD HOFFMAN	CWO	W2114256	USA	AUS
JUDGE ADVOCATE	RICHARD F WELCH	Col	0225556	JAGD	RES
Asst JA	EDWARD L VanRODEN	Lt Col	0139956	JAGD	RES
QUARTERMASTER	PAUL E WARFIELD	Col	0246401	QMC	NG
Asst QM	JOHN G TAPP	Lt Col	0329067	QMC	RES
Asst QM	JOHN C HARRISON	Maj	0342679	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HERMAN B BOYD Jr	Capt	0393313	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HARRY P HUTPLAS	1st Lt	01110876	QMC	AUS
Asst QM	(1)TED I ARCHBALD	WOJG	W2109490	USA	AUS
SURGEON	ROBERT H PARR	Lt Col	0240710	MC	RES
Asst Surg	JAMES R FANCHER	Maj	0360582	MC	NG
Asst Surg	JOSEPH E BANGS	Maj	0406405	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	NORMAN C ROBISON	Capt	0472662	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	(1)JAMES T ASCH	Capt	0447621	MC	RES
Chief Clerk	LAWRENCE A PECOR	CWO	W2114253	USA	AUS
FINANCE OFFICER	ELMER A STROH	Col	0232150	FD	NG
Asst Fin Off	ANDREW S DONNELLY	1st Lt	02040990	FD	AUS
Asst Fin Off	(2)LESLIE R YOCUM	CWO	W2103871	USA	AUS
CHEMICAL OFFICER	JACK A BARNES	Lt Col	0283115	CWS	RES
Asst Chl Off	IRWIN W SHUTT	Maj	0346833	CWS	RES
ENGINEER	WILSON J YOUNG	Col	03788	CE	RA
Asst Engr	HENRY M BLACK	Lt Col	0259095	CE	RES
Asst Engr	GLENN H PLUMLEE	Maj	0352959	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ALBION W KNIGHT	Capt	0366716	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ROBERT M GILLESPIE	Capt	0364884	CE	RES
Asst Engr	PHILIP E SMITH	Capt	01102061	CE	AUS
ORDNANCE OFFICER	ARTHUR H LUSE	Col	07537	Ord Dept	RA
Asst Ord Off	STUART J NEWTON Jr (DS)	Maj	0371040	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	SAMUEL M COHEN	Maj	0422951	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	RICHARD A GRIFFELL	Capt	0392097	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	(1)JOHN SUNYDEK	Capt	0387454	Inf	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN C BELLOWS	Capt	0416205	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	WILLIAM D WALL Jr	WOJG	W2120959	USA	AUS
Asst Ord Off	(1)WILLIAM J JANKOWSKI	WOJG	W2131344	USA	AUS

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
5 Sep 1944 continued.

SIGNAL OFFICER	JOHN A SAWYER	Col	017177	Sig C	RA
Asst Sig Off	CHARLES T WESNER	Maj	0276309	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	HUGH SMITH	Capt	0351848	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	JOHN BRAWLEY	Capt	01634554	Sig C	AUS
Asst Sig Off	VICTOR G FLORENCE	CWO	W2109861	USA	AUS
CHAPLAIN	F HERBERT MOEHLMANN	Col	017986	Ch	RA
Asst Ch	PATRICK J GLEESON	Lt Col	0325091	Ch	RES
	SIDNEY M LEFKOWITZ (DS)	Capt	0471729	Ch	AUS
SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER	HENRY N HENRY	Lt Col	0246714	FA	RES
Asst Sp Sv Off	ROBERT R WILSON	Maj	0289950	Inf	NG
Asst Sp Sv Off	(1)WILLIAM C SMITH Jr	1st Lt	0375518	FA	RES
PROVOST MARSHAL	(2)JOHN D BRADLEY Jr	Maj	0341714	Cav	RES
Asst PM	ADOLPH PIONTEK	Capt	0454090	Inf	AUS
Asst PM	EARL W MUMLEY	Capt	0354776	CMP	RES
~~AIR SUPPORT PARTY OFF~~					
FR HQ IX FI COMD	(1)SIDNEY F BRODY	Maj	0428933	AC	NG
Asst Air Support Party O	(1)GEORGE E BOURGUIGNON	Capt	0727394	AC	RES
CIC DET NO 207					
COMMANDING OFFICER	JAMES K DORSETT Jr	Capt	0362283	Inf	RES
Executive	JOHN H HEMINWAY	1st Lt	01302652	Inf	AUS
	EDWARD C STOLLENWERCK	2d Lt	01304812	Inf	AUS
	CLAYMER SCHLUTER	2d Lt	01544090	AUS	AUS
	JOHN H REBER	2d Lt	0887407	AUS	AUS
HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT	(2)LEWIS W LEENEY	Maj	025206	Inf	RA
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY VII CORPS					
COMMANDING OFFICER	LAWRENCE L LARSEN	Capt	0352065	Inf	RES
Executive Off	FREDERICK FERGUSON	Capt	0388735	Inf	RES
Mess Off	GLENN TERRELL Jr	1st Lt	0442649	Inf	RES
Supply Off	SHERWOOD V GREGORY	1st Lt	01290594	Inf	AUS
Motor Off	NORMAN FURMAN	1st Lt	01313085	Inf	AUS
Asst Supply Off	JOHN J McGEE	1st Lt	0532462	Inf	RES
Personnel Off	JAMES L HAYES	CWO	W2116181	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES L WHITEHURST	CWO	W2109873	USA	AUS
Asst Supply Off	FREDERICK D HEIM	WOJG	W2116182	USA	AUS
Asst Motor Off	MAX A LOOMIS	WOJG	W2109892	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES F BROWER	WOJG	W2116187	USA	AUS
MEDICAL DETACHMENT VII CORPS					
Medical Off	THEODORE S WRIGHT	Capt	0500245	MC	AUS
Dental Off	RUDOLPH J FALKIN	Capt	01689861	DC	AUS
1ST PLT 506TH QM C P Co					
COMMANDING OFFICER	OLIVER R DAVIS	1st Lt	01581650	QMC	AUS

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
5 Sep 1944 continued.

DUTY UNANNOUNCED	(1)DORRANCE S ROYSDON	Col	011135	Inf	PA
	(1)DAVID G McTILLAN	Lt Col	0237378	CE	RES
	(1)WILLIAM L CABANISS	Lt Col	0293176	Inf	RES
	ROBERT W DUKE	Lt Col	0365127	Inf	RES
	(1)JOSEPH P WILBERT	Maj	0354140	Inf	RES
	(1)JUAN A PALERM	Maj	0325000	QMC	
	(1)RICHARD SHAPPELL	Capt	0309284	Inf	
	(1)FRED L HADSELL	2d Lt	01799048	CWS	
	JAY MAKELA	2d Lt	01547383	WAC	
	ARTHUR J MORGANROTH	2d Lt	0546407	WAC	
	(1)RANDAL M DuBOIS	Lt		USNR	
AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD SUPERVISOR		JOHN A. BUTLER			
AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR		CHARLES C BROADDUS			
AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR		EDGAR L BURNETT			
~~AMERICAN RED CROSS CLUBMOBILE UNIT "D"~~					
GROUP CAPTAIN		HOPE J SUTTON			
Asst Group Captain		SUSAN BOYLE			

Note: (1) indicates atchd to Hq VII Corps
(2) indicates asgd to Hq Co VII Corps
(3) indicates CO 307th AFU

Lawton Butler

LAWTON BUTLER,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES BY TYPE OF VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY, 1-30 SEPTEMBER 1944

DATE	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTAL
1	12	31	0	0	43
2	6	31	1	0	38
3	11	49	0	0	60
4	14	124	1	0	139
5	29	157	4	0	190
6	8	140	25	0	173
7	17	60	1	0	78
8	19	49	2	406	476
9	11	19	0	3	33
10	10	54	0	0	64
11	18	48	0	0	66
12	14	53	9	0	76
13	14	107	0	0	121
14	56	103	16	0	175
15	15	89	1	0	105
16	32	176	17	0	225
17	34	363	9	0	406
18	53	265	30	0	348
19	40	198	22	0	260
20	35	206	1	0	242
21	23	159	27	0	200
22	31	155	0	0	186
23	15	134	5	0	154
24	20	155	5	0	180
25	24	132	66	0	222
26	12	107	6	0	125
27	8	55	3	0	66
28	11	68	1	0	80
29	17	111	12	4	144
30	18	57	5	0	80

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DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES BY UNITS OF VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY, 1-30 SEPTEMBER 1944

Date	1 Inf Div	3 Armd Div	9 Inf Div	4 Cav Gp	Corps Troops	Totals
1	2	20	16	5	0	43
2	4	26	0	3	5	38
3	14	16	0	0	0	60
4	25	18	81	0	15	139
5	67	22	86	0	13	190
6	4	2	163	1	3	170
7	2	10	63	0	3	78
8	2	42	420	7	5	476
9	6	2	17	2	6	33
10	17	37	0	2	8	64
11	27	24	0	3	12	66
12	30	37	0	3	6	76
13	39	51	1	6	24	121
14	102	50	14	5	4	175
15	25	41	31	2	3	105
16	48	92	57	2	27	226
17	37	230	132	5	2	406
18	61	104	163	10	10	348
19	49	88	106	2	15	260
20	16	106	107	3	20	242
21	11	120	50	6	5	200
22	10	53	114	5	4	196
23	11	49	86	4	2	154
24	35	28	92	1	24	190
25	16	111	82	11	2	282
26	8	14	97	3	3	125
27	8	10	42	2	4	66
28	5	4	68	2	1	80
29	11	23	106	2	1	144
30	10	28	28	14	0	80

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PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED BY VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY

FROM 1 - 30 SEPTEMBER, 1944.

1	524
2	593
3	7,093
4	10,807
5	8,871
6	3,481
7	2,546
8	1,239
9	2,253
10	402
11	591
12	628
13	240
14	464
15	571
16	511
17	388
18	436
19	385
20	359
21	353
22	500
23	203
24	84
25	182
26	131
27	92
28	69
29	104
30	78
Total	44,178

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585.7
Oct. 1944

TO THE ENGINEER
OF THE AAF
HISTORICAL OFFICE

4340-1047C

MICROFILMED

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EO 11652

VII Corps
Attrition reports
Oct. 1944

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
APO 307, U.S. Army

SECRET
Auth: CG VII Corps
Init: M McJ
Date: 14 Nov 44

9 November 1944

Copy 1 of 6 copies

SUBJECT: History of the VII Corps for the period of 1-31 October 1944, Incl (Report after action against the enemy).

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Through Commanding General, First United States Army.)

1. In compliance with letter 319.1/401, First United States Army, 13 July 1944, subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports, the following report is submitted for the period 1-31 October 1944, Incl:

a.) ORIGINAL UNIT:

No change.

b.) CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

(1) Assigned and attached Corps troops as of 1 October, 1944:

VII Corps
VII Corps MP Pln
VII Corps Arty
13 FA Obsn Bn
50 Signal Bn
109 AAA Gp
491 Collect Co
492 Collect Co
506 QM Co 1 Pln
649 Clearing Co
1106 Engr C Gp
1 TD Gp
1 Spec Serv Co
4 Cav Gp Mecz
4 Cav Ron Sq M
5 MRU Mobile
6 Armd Gp
10 Fin Disb Sec
14 Bomb Disp Sq
18 FA Gp Mtz
20 Bomb Disp Sq
24 Cav Ron Sq M
60 AGF Band
87 Cml Bn Mtz
142 FA Gp Mtz
172 FA Bn 4.5 Gun
183 FA Bn 155 How

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50 Med Bn
188 FA Gp Mtz
188 FA Bn 155 How
195 FA Bn 8" How
207 CIC Det
237 Eng C Bn
266 FA Bn 240 How
297 Eng C Bn
294 Eng C Bn
298 Eng C Bn
307 APU Type F
385 QM Trk Co
438 AAA AW Bn
474 AAA AW Bn
501 Eng CO LP
507 Eng Co LP
603 QM GRV R Co
612 Eng Co LR
634 TD Bn SP
663 Eng Top Co C
692 QM Bn
746 Tk Bn
759 Tk Bn L
951 FA Bn 155 How
957 FA Bn 155 How
980 FA Bn 155 Gun
981 FA Bn 155 Gun
988 Eng CO TB
991 Bn 155 Gun FA
994 Eng TB Co
1120 Eng C Gp
2892 Eng TI TM C
3251 Sig Serv Co
3279 QM Serv Co
3892 QM Trk Co
238 Eng C Bn

1st Inf Div
1 Eng C Bn
1 Med Bn
1 Signal Co
1 QM Co
1 Recn Trp Mecz
1 Div Band
1 Div Arty
5 FA Bn 155 How
7 FA Bn 105 How
16 Inf Regt
18 Inf Regt
26 Inf Regt
32 FA Bn 105 How
33 FA Bn 105 How
701 Ord LM Co

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1 CIC Det
103 AAA AW Bn M
635 TD Bn T
745 Tk Bn

3 Armored Division
Mnt Bn 3 Armd Div
Sup Bn 3 Armd Div
23 Armd Engr Bn
32 Armd Regt
33 Armd Regt
36 Armd Inf Regt
45 Armd Med Bn
54 Armd FA Bn
67 Armd FA Bn
83 Armd Recn Bn
143 Armd Sig Co
391 Armd FA Bn
58 Armd FA Bn
87 Armd FA Bn
486 AAA AW Bn SP
503 CIC Det
703 TD Bn SP

9 Inf Div
9 Med Bn
9 Sig Co
9 QM Co
9 Recn Trp Mecz
9 Inf Div MP Plm
9 Inf Div Band
9 Div Arty
15 Eng C Bn
26 FA Bn 105 How
34 FA Bn 155 How
39 Inf Regt
47 Inf Regt
60 Inf Regt
60 FA Bn 105 How
84 FA Bn 105 How
709 Ord Lm Co
9 CIC Det
376 AAA AW Bn M
899 TD Bn SP

AUTH: 5 MRU, Hq VII Corps.

(2) Attachments:

The following units having been attached to VII Corps on order First Army are further attached to 109th AAA Gp as shown:
116 AAA Gun Bn 11 October
440 AAA Bn (AW) 12 October

AUTH: Opns Memo 105, Hq VII Corps, 13 Oct 44.

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240 FA Bn (155 Gun) is relieved from attachment XIX Corps and attached VII Corps on order First Army effective 100800A.

Btry B, 285 FA Obsn Bn, is relieved from attachment to XIX Corps and attached VII Corps on order First Army effective 150800A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 106, Hq VII Corps, 15 Oct 44.

690 FA Bn (105 H) is relieved from attachment to 42 FA Gp and attached VII Corps on order First Army effective 180800A.

2nd Bn, 110 Inf (28 Inf Div) is attached to VII Corps on order First Army and further attached to 1 Inf Div effective 180800A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 107, Hq VII Corps, 18 Oct 44.

LCVP Unit No 1, U.S. Navy, is attached VII Corps on order First Army and further attached to 1120 Engr C Gp effective 181800A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 109, Hq VII Corps, 22 Oct 44.

Following elements and attachments of 9 Inf Div are attached to 3rd Armd Div effective 251200A:

47 Inf Regt
84 FA Bn
Co B, 9 Med Bn
1 Plat, Co B, 15 Engr Bn
Co C, 899 TD Bn
Co A, 746 Tk Bn
Btry D, 376 AAA Bn

294 Engr C Bn is relieved from attachment to 9 Inf Div and attached to 3 Armd Div effective 251200A.

Following units attached to 9 Inf Div revert to VII Corps control 231200A:

Hq and Hq Btry, 188 FA Gp
172 FA Bn (4.5 G)
951 FA Bn (155 H)
981 FA Bn (155 G)
Btry C, 195 FA Bn (8" H)

Co's C and D, 87 Cml Bn revert to control VII Corps effective 251200A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 110, Hq VII Corps, 24 Oct 44.

The 751 FA Bn (155 How) is attached to VII Corps on order First Army effective 231800A.

The 285 FA Obsn Bn (less Btry B) is attached to VII Corps on order First Army effective 261200A.

The 803 TD Bn (SP) is attached to VII Corps on order First Army effective 261200A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 114, Hq VII Corps, 1 Nov 44.

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(3) Detachments:

2nd Bn, 110 Inf is relieved from attachment 1 Inf Div and reverts to control CC B, 5 Armd Div, effective 220800A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 109, Hq VII Corps, 22 Oct 44.

9 Inf Div (less 47 Inf Regt, 84 FA Bn, Co B, 9 Med Bn, 1 Plat, Co B, 15 Engr Bn, Co C, 899 TD Bn, Co A, 764 Tk Bn, Btry D, 376 AAA Bn, 294 Engr C Bn, Hq and Hq Btry, 188 FA Gp, 172 FA Bn (4.5 G), 951 FA Bn (155 H), 981 FA Bn (155 G), Btry C, 195 FA Bn (8" H), Co's C and D, 87 Cml Bn) passes to control of V Corps on order First Army effective 251200A.

Elements of 294 Engr C Bn defending road blocks within the sector of the V Corps will be attached for operations only to V Corps until such time as they are relieved or passed through by V Corps elements.

AUTH: Opns Memo 110, Hq VII Corps, 24 Oct 44.

The following units are detached VII Corps on order First Army effective 271200A.

Hq and Hq Btry, 179 FA Gp
153 FA Bn (8" Gun)
266 FA Bn (240 How)

AUTH: Opns Memo 114, Hq VII Corps, 1 Nov 44.

c.) STRENGTH:

(1) Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 1 Oct 44: 98 officers; 15 warrant officers; 359 enlistedmen.
Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 31 Oct 44: 93 officers; 15 warrant officers; 346 enlistedmen.
Net loss for period: 5 officers, and 13 enlistedmen.
(2) VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 1 Oct 44: 66,662.
VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 31 Oct 44: 72,963.
Net gain for the period: 6301.

AUTH: Morning Reports of 5 MRU, VII Corps, U.S. Army, for the above dates of Oct 44.

NOTE: Does not include units attached for operations only.

d.) STATIONS:

Kornelimunster, Germany.

AUTH: Morning Reports of Hq Co, VII Corps, U.S. Army.

e.) CAMPAIGNS:

Continued to roll up penetration of the SIEGFRIED LINE, clearing the enemy from the area opposite the penetration, junction with XIX Corps, and capture of Aachen, first major German city to fall to the Allies.

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(2) To destroy the enemy on its front, capture Aachen, guard the penetration, and clear the way for a drive to the Rhine River.
(3) Duration: 1-31 Oct 44 (Later phase not completed.)

AUTH: Opns Memo 102-114 incl, VII Corps, U.S. Army.

f.) BATTLES:

See narrative report, Appendix No. 1.

g.) COMMANDING OFFICERS:

(1) Corps Commander: Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins.
(2) Division Commanders:
1 Inf Div: Maj Gen Clarence R. Huebner.
3 Armd Div: Maj Gen Maurice Rose.
9 Inf Div: Maj Gen Louis A. Craig.

h.) LOSSES IN ACTION:

(1) Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army:
Bailey, Donald E, 36671807, T/5, Ord, 20th Ord Bomb Disp Sq (Sep), died of wounds, 29 Oct. 44.
Eaton, Nelson C, 04534443, 1st Lt., FA, Hq VII Corps, WIA, 17 Oct 44.

(2) VII Corps, U.S. Army:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTALS
Officers	52	135	15	0	202
Warrant O's	0	0	0	0	0
Enlistedmen	862	3379	515	12	4768
Grand Total	914	3514	530	12	4970

AUTH: 5 MRU, VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 31 Oct 44.
(Note: Casualty figures do not include troops attached for operations only.)

i.) FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:

I -- AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL--Under the provisions of AR 600-45 dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and Circular No 66, Headquarters First United States Army dated 18 May 1944, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men:

COLONEL NATHANIEL L SIMMONDS 05883 General Staff Corps, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 30 March 1944 in England. Entered military service from Virginia.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT M BREWER (then Major) 022975 Field Artillery, Headquarters VII Corps Artillery, United States Army, for

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meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 20 March 1944 to 4 May 1944. Entered United States Military Academy from Indiana.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL FREDERICK W BUECHNER 0232425 Corps of Military Police, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 February 1944 to 22 June 1944 in England and France. Entered Military service from New York.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL BERGIN V DICKEY (then Major) 0360244 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 April 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Missouri.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDWARD M FRIEND JR 0310219 General Staff Corps, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 1 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Alabama.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL LYNELL F GORDON 0201864 General Staff Corps, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 24 March 1944 to 23 July 1944 in England and France. Entered military service from Texas.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HENRY N HENRY (then Major) 0246714 Field Artillery, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 15 March 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Alabama.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL LUDLOW KING 0278463 Chemical Warfare Service, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 21 April 1944 to 22 June 1944 in England and France. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL LOSS O LYNN 021722 Medical Corps, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 April 1944 to 30 June 1944 in England and France. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL GEORGE W McRORY 0286320 Quartermaster Corps, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 7 June 1944 to 20 June 1944 in France. Entered military service from Florida.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOSEPH H O'MALLEY 019061 General Staff Corps, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 February 1944 to 25 July 1944 in England and France. Entered United States Military Academy from Missouri.

MAJOR NED R DICKSON (then Captain) 0389040 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Washington.

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MAJOR JAMES K DORSETT JR (then Captain) 0302283 Infantry, 207th Counter Intelligence Corps Detachment, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from North Carolina.

MAJOR JOHN C HARRISON 0342679 Quartermaster Corps, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 20 March 1944 to 4 May 1944 in England. Entered military service from Montana.

MAJOR GLENN H PLUMLEE 0352959 Corps of Engineers, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Alabama.

MAJOR ROY J SIMONE 0341012 Infantry, then Headquarters Company VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 27 June 1944 in England and France. Entered military service from Louisiana.

MAJOR ROBERT L SNYDER 0303549 Inspector General's Department, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 15 April 1944 to 1 May 1944 in England. Entered military service from Alabama.

MAJOR JAMES C SUTTLES (then Captain) 01573610 Quartermaster Corps, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 15 November 1943 to 10 March 1944 in England. Entered military service from Alabama.

MAJOR CHARLES T WESNER 0276307 Signal Corps, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 2 April 1944 to 4 May 1944 in England. Entered military service from Missouri.

CAPTAIN LOUIS BATT (then First Lieutenant and Captain) 01045664 Coast Artillery Corps, attached Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 10 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from New York.

CAPTAIN THOMAS R CORLEAL (then First Lieutenant) 01110429 Corps of Engineers, attached Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 17 March 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

FIRST LIEUTENANT ALEXANDER BLAZEVICIUS (then Second Lieutenant and First Lieutenant) 01296983 Infantry, attached Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 10 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Connecticut.

FIRST LIEUTENANT IGNACE L EPHRUSSI (then Second Lieutenant) 0574526 Air Corps, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 10 February 1944 to

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6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from California.

FIRST LIEUTENANT PIERRE P LaBRECHE (then Second Lieutenant) 013-03258 Infantry, attached Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 10 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from New Jersey.

WARRANT OFFICER JUNIOR GRADE CARL A ALIFANO W2109898 United States Army, Headquarters Company VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 20 March 1944 to 25 April 1944 in England. Entered military service from New York.

WARRANT OFFICER JUNIOR GRADE PRESTON M MARKWARD (then Master Sergeant and Warrant Officer) W2131280 United States Army, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Ohio.

MASTER SERGEANT AMOS B CROXTON 7080695 Corps of Engineers, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 15 March 1944 to 4 May 1944 in England. Entered military service from Alabama.

MASTER SERGEANT FRANCIS J KILEY 36027710 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Illinois.

MASTER SERGEANT MARVIN T KLINE 36035424 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 24 March 1944 to 5 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Illinois.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT EMIL B MARTIRE 32016602 Infantry, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from New York.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT RUSSELL C SPITLER 19085995 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 24 March 1944 to 5 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from California.

TECHNICAL SERGEANT MAURICE WERBLUD 32191331 Infantry, attached Headquarters Company VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 10 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from New York.

STAFF SERGEANT MANFORD L ANDERSON 39603965 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 1 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Montana.

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STAFF SERGEANT HOMER C BOYD 19185696 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 21 March 1944 to 4 May 1944 in England. Entered military service from California.

STAFF SERGEANT SANTIAGO E DE RIVERA 39549208 Infantry, attached Headquarters Company VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 10 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from California.

STAFF SERGEANT ISIDORE B GLUCKMAN 32436925 Infantry, attached Headquarters Company VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 10 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from New York.

STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH M GONZALEZ 12139448 Infantry, attached Headquarters Company VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from New York.

STAFF SERGEANT ALAN J HARPER 33008561 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Maryland.

TECHNICIAN THIRD GRADE LUKE B MASE 37066308 Corps of Engineers, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 14 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 In England. Entered military service from Arkansas.

TECHNICIAN THIRD GRADE TONY PAVKOVICH 36109628 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Michigan.

TECHNICIAN THIRD GRADE MICHAEL M RUTKOWSKI 35536901 Infantry, attached Headquarters Company VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 10 February 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Indiana.

SERGEANT RODGER D DALEN 39382869 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meriotorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Washington.

TECHNICIAN FOURTH GRADE JOHN P MARRON 33036310 Infantry, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE THOMAS M PRYOR (then Technician Fourth Grade and Technician Fifth Grade) 34279412 Medical Department, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered military service from Mississippi.

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AUTH: GO No. 71, Hq VII Corps U.S. Army, 28 Oct 44.

j.) PHOTOGRAPHS:

(1) See Inclosure No. 8.
(2) Additional photographs covering the period of this report will be submitted as received from Army Pictorial Service.

For the Commanding General:

Lawton Butler

APPENDICIES:

1. Narrative.
2. Staff List.
3. Casualty and PW List as given by VII Corps, G-1 Section.

INCLOSURES:

1. Administrative Orders.
2. G-3 Sitreps (Situation Reports).
3. G-3 Periodic Reports.
4. G-3 Operations Memoranda.
5. G-3 Journals.
6. G-2 Periodic Reports.
7. G-2 Journals.
8. Photographs.

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HISTORY OF VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY,
DURING OPERATIONS IN GERMANY AND
THE CAPTURE OF AACHEN FROM 1-31
OCTOBER 1944.

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1 OCTOBER 1944

Troops of the VII Corps continued to hold defensive positions and to actively patrol along the entire front, maintaining contact with the enemy while awaiting First U. S. Army orders to renew the attack. Further delay was caused by continued unfavorable weather which made air support impossible. The only change in the front lines was in the extreme southern (right) sector where the relief of the 4th Cavalry Group was started by elements of the V Corps.

Identification of the 246th Infantry Division, south and east of AACHEN (K-8443) was [illegible] through prisoners of war taken by the Corps. This unit was reported to have relieved the 116th Panzer Division, which withdrew north toward DUREN (F-1246) to regroup. Enemy activity during the period was confined to patrolling and sporadic artillery fire. Considerable ground activity was noted in the vicinity of STOLBERG (K-9342).

9th Infantry Division: No change in front line positions was made in the Division zone as contact was maintained with the enemy through patrolling.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to maintain defensive positions and contact with the enemy through patrolling. The Division Reserve continued maintenance of equipment and rehabilitation of personnel.

1st Infantry Division: Maintained light enemy contact through patrolling. The 1106th Engineer Combat Group moved into the zone of the 18th Infantry, and was prepared to relieve the Regiment of its defensive positions.

9th Infantry Division

The 39th Infantry held defensive positions and patrolled actively in the sector. In the 3rd Battalion area 20 prisoners were taken early in the morning. Company G readjusted lines, restoring positions lost during the counter-attack the previous night. The 3rd Battalion blew up three pillboxes on their outpost line to permit shortening of its main line.

Both the 60th and 47th Infantry Regiments maintained light contact with the enemy by extensive patrolling. A 3 minute mortar barrage by the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 47th Infantry failed to draw enemy fire. The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, remained attached to Task Force Tincher. There was no change in the mission of the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion, less Company C, in maintaining road blocks between the 60th and 47th Infantry Regiments, or Task Force Tincher in patrolling to the south (right) and holding road blocks in the MONSCHAU (K-9418) area.

3rd Armored Division

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion conducted the only patrol activity in the Division zone. Routine security and reconnaissance patrols were conducted without incident. Both Combat Commands Boudinot and Hickey continued to hold defensive positions while the Division Reserve performed maintenance and rehabilitation. The 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, reverted to Combat Command Hickey and replaced 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry in the line as this latter unit reverted to the Division Reserve.

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1st Infantry Division

While preparing to attack to seize the high ground northeast of AACHEN, in conjunction with the advance of the 30th Division, XIX Corps, on its north (left), and isolate the city, the 1st Infantry Division held in place in its defensive positions and maintained light enemy contact by routine patrolling. Both combat and reconnaissance patrols probed the enemy lines toward AACHEN.

4th Cavalry Group

On the right (south) flank of the Corps relief of units of the 4th Cavalry Group was begun by elements of the V Corps in the extreme southern portion of the Group zone. Cavalry units relieved by the V Corps troops were displaced north to relieve Task Force Timmer. Other units of the 4th Cavalry continued their defense of the HOFEN (K-9516) - ALTEN(K-9615) area and reconnaissance patrols. Light contact was maintained with the enemy. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was relieved in its sector by 102nd Cavalry Group elements and moved into an assembly area in the vicinity of CAMP KLEINBONN (K-9008) by 1715, prepared to move north and relieve Task Force Timmer on 2 October.

Artillery

1st Division: An infantry outpost heard tanks and enemy vehicles moving in the town of ARNOH (K-9344) about midnight. Three light battalions and 1 medium battalion were massed, 2 volleys each, on the town. The infantry reported large fires and two large explosions in the area. In the morning the outpost, only 600 yards from the town, reported several burned out tanks and vehicles together with other debris in the area. Later in the night a report of movement in the town of HARDEN (K-9445) was received from another outpost. Four battalions, 2 volleys, were massed on the town and no further movement was heard there.

Other missions fired were: 45 harassing, 15 enemy gun, 19 infantry, 14 vehicle, 9 tank, 7 registration, 5 mortar, 2 machine gun, and 32 other close support missions. In support of the XIX Corps, 19 counter-flak, and 9 counterbattery missions were fired. Rounds expended: 2188.

9th Division: Fired the following missions: 17 counterbattery, 32 harassing, 11 mortar and machine gun, 3 tank, 2 preparation, 1 pillbox, and 55 other close support missions. Rounds expended: 2232.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 18 infantry, 6 AA Gun, 6 harassing, 6 interdiction, 4 counterbattery, 3 registration, 1 train, 1 OP, and 1 vehicle, expending 1026 rounds.

4th Cavalry Group: Fired 18 interdiction, 3 infantry, 2 outposts, 1 tank, and 1 communication center. Rounds expended: 887.

Corps: Fired 33 interdiction, 17 counterbattery, 3 tank, and 6 registration, expending 722 rounds. To support the attack of the XIX Corps, artillery with the VII Corps fired two preparations. The first was a counter-flak preparation consisting of 42 missions on enemy flak batteries. The second was a counterbattery preparation consisting of 18 missions on enemy battery locations. Three additional counterbattery missions were fired later; 1 location by sound, 1 by flash, and 1 by Air OP. (Artillery report covers period from 011200 to 021200).

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Antiaircraft: No enemy action was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending 010600.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn expended 230 rounds of 3" HE indirect, harassing fire. The 635th TD Bn fired 7 interdiction and 7 close support missions, expending 175 rounds. In firing on a troop concentration the 899th TD Bn expended 11 rounds of 3" HE.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 78.

2 OCTOBER 1944

Activity among Corps troops continued much the same as during the past several days. A small counterattack was repulsed in the zone of the 9th Division while elements of the V Corps relieved the 4th Cavalry Group which moved north to take over a sector previously held by elements of the 9th Division. The size of the Corps zone was decreased to make room for units of the Ninth Army that had begun to arrive and take over part of the long front held by the First Army.

At 0940 an enemy force estimated at 2 companies of the 20th GAF Fortress Battalion, supported by mortar and machine gun fire, attacked road blocks maintained by the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion west of HURTGEN between F-004375 and F-011338. The enemy was driven off without loss of ground by our forces. A nine man enemy patrol was liquidated south of AACHEN (K-8443) at 1400.

Beginning at 2330 and continuing through the close of the period an extremely heavy concentration of artillery, mortar, and tank fire was placed on forward positions of the 16th Infantry, 1st Division, west of STOLBERG (K-9348). Previous to this concentration approximately 300 rounds of 75, 88, 105, and 150mm fire fell in the zone of the 1st Division during the period, with the bulk of enemy fire directed at our positions west of STOLBERG. An increased enemy artillery fire, especially 105 and 155mm, fell in the zone of the 3rd Armored Division, east of STOLBERG. Along the east flank of the Corps artillery fire decreased during the period. Long-range artillery fell on LAMMERSDORF (K-9726) during the day.

9th Infantry Division: Roadblocks held by the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion were attacked early in the morning by the enemy. 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, was sent to reinforce the Engineers. By late afternoon the attack was repulsed and the enemy driven off. Task Force Tincher (2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, reinforced) was relieved by 4th Cavalry Group, except for Companies E and F. No change in other units.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to hold and consolidate positions, maintaining contact with the enemy. In the Combat Command Boudinot sector Task Force Mills relieved Task Force Lovelady. There was no change in the western sector held by Combat Command Hickey.

1st Infantry Division: The Division prepared to resume the attack. The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 18th Infantry were relieved of defensive positions by the 1106th Engineer Combat Group. There was no change in the front lines.

4th Cavalry Group: Relief of the Group by the 102nd Cavalry Group (V Corps)

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was accomplished during the day, except for small detachments of 24th Reconnaissance Squadron in the vicinity of MONSCHAU (K-9418). Task Force Tincher, 9th Division, was relieved by elements of 24th Cavalry Squadron.

9th Infantry Division

In the Division zone there was no change in the positions with the 39th, 60th and 47th Infantry holding the front lines in that order from right to left. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion held positions between the 60th and 47th Infantry Regiments, manning road blocks at F-010390, F-008366, F-011365, F-011355, and F009337, and platoon defensive positions at F-003378.

Following an enemy artillery preparation an attack was launched against the road blocks at F-011365 and F-011355 at 0900 hours. The first position was partially surrounded by the enemy and he succeeded in isolating the latter. At 1001 hours the block at F-008366 was also engaged and all reserves were committed. Enemy strength was about 2 companies and was concentrated around the road blocks at F-011365 and F-011355 at 1100 hours and an hour later around F-010390 and F-011355. A platoon of light tanks was dispatched to assist the Engineers by driving down the road from F-008366 and retake the position at F-011355. The tanks moved out at 1430 hours and met small arms and machine gun fire after advancing 400 yards. Tanks and engineers cleaned out the machine guns, taking 17 prisoners, and advanced to F-011355 where enemy and some of our own dead were found.

By this time enemy activity was limited to the position at F-011365 and the area south to the other road block. At 1710 hours contact was made with the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, and the enemy was driven off after a heavy engagement. The 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry organized a defensive position in this area. A new road block was established 300 yards south of the block at F-008366, and at 1925 hours the platoon which had manned the road block at F-011355 reassembled at the position. By 2220 hours all quiet was reported.

Meanwhile the 47th Infantry had to send a detachment to attack south and assist the engineers. The detachment moved out at 1300 hours. The I and R platoon reconnoitered roads to the south and east and contacted the 298th Engineers. An enemy patrol which attempted to enter Company A's area was driven off by small arms and mortar fire of B Company. Other 47th and 60th Infantry units remained in defensive positions. The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry was relieved from attachment to Task Force Tincher and the Battalion, less Companies E and F marched to an area in the vicinity of K-992328 in the STAATS FOREST.

On the right flank of the Division the 39th Infantry remained in its defensive positions throughout the period and continued to maintain contact with the enemy by active patrolling. Sporadic artillery fell in forward positions during the day.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division continued to defend in its zone throughout the period, conducting patrol activity. The 1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, relieved the 2nd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, in the zone of Combat Command Boudinot during the afternoon. There was no change in the disposition of Combat Command Hickey. The Division Reserve continued in a period of maintenance and rehabilitation. Enemy activity was restricted to intermittent artillery and mortar fire.

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1st Infantry Division

Contact with the enemy was maintained by active patrolling, and positions were further consolidated without loss of ground. The 1106th Engineer Combat Group completed the relief of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 18th Infantry at 1600 hours. The AT Company, 18th Infantry, remained in position to give the Engineer Group support if needed. Company H, 33rd Armored Regiment, 3rd Armored Division was also available as a reserve. The 18th Infantry, less 3rd Battalion, moved to a previously selected assembly area, the 1st Battalion at AACHEN-ORESNET (K-8139), and the 2nd Battalion south of STEINEBRUCK at K-8438.

4th Cavalry Group

Relief of the 4th Cavalry Squadron was completed by units of V Corps and the Squadron assembled in the vicinity of CAMP ELSENBORN (K-9008). The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance relieved Task Force Tinger of the 9th Infantry Division, between MONSCHAU (K-9418) and RJ K-9472.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 16 defensive fires, 14 counterbattery, 14 infantry, 12 tank, 11 vehicle, 8 mortar, 8 registration, 6 machine gun, 4 interdiction, 3 counterpreparation, 3 pillbox, and 35 harassing missions, expending 3371 rounds.

9th Division: An observer of the 84th FA Bn adjusted Btry B, 981st FA Bn (155 G) on a factory. Large fires were caused by the 36 rounds of HE and 4 of WP that were fired. Other missions, totaling 106, were fired as follows: 12 counterbattery, 27 harassing, 9 mortar and machine gun, 2 pillbox, 2 tank, and 37 close support. Rounds fired were 2216.

3rd Armored Division: An observer from the 67th Armored FA Bn adjusting the 195th FA Bn (8" H) on a house containing an enemy CP. Two hits were obtained on the roof with fuze quick and one in the basement with fuze delay, and the building destroyed. One gun of the 991st FA Bn (155 G SP) was adjusted by Air OP on the power plant of a very active factory in the ESCHWEILER (K-9647) area. Several hits were obtained. Other missions included 27 harassing, 19 infantry, 9 enemy batteries, 6 registration, 5 mortar, 3 flak batteries, 3 vehicle, and 2 CPs. Rounds expended: 2345.

Corps: Reinforced the fires of the 1st Division, firing 4 counterbattery, and two tanks missions. One counterbattery mission fired by the 980th FA Bn (155 G) silenced the enemy batteries that were neutralizing the 7th FA Bn of the 1st Division. Battalion 4 volleys were fired on an accurate sound plot and the fire immediately ceased on the 7th FA Bn. Other missions fired were 27 interdiction and harassing, 15 counterbattery, 9 registration and 1 CP, expending a total of 823.

Antiaircraft: No enemy air activity was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending 02600.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn expended 5 rounds of 3" APC and 85 rounds of 3" HE direct fire on two steel pillboxes. Observation through field glasses at 500 yards revealed the APC nosed into the steel and stuck. A large percentage of the penetration was no more than 2/3 length of the projectile. The Battalion also expended 234 rounds of 3" HE indirect, harassing fire on the roads between HAAREN (K-8615) and AACHEN (K-8443).

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The 635th TD Bn fired 180 rounds of 3" HE indirect, harassing fire. The 703rd TD Bn fired 167 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9847). The 899th TD Bn expended 45 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 70.

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The only activity that developed in the Corps zone during the day other than routine patrolling was a small scale counterattack in the 1st Division sector which was repulsed without the loss of ground. Unfavorable weather continued to delay the jump off of the 9th Division in launching the Corps next offensive operation.

Following a heavy concentration of artillery, tank and mortar fire at 0001, an enemy force composed of four half-tracks, two flame throwers and 40 foot soldiers from the 5th Company, 27th Regiment, and the Engineer Battalion, 12th Infantry Division, attacked in the vicinity of the road junction 2 miles west of MUNSTERBUSCH (K-9842) in an attempt to capture pillboxes in the area. Only one pillbox was retaken by the enemy, and was subsequently lost to our counter-attack which quickly restored the line. During the remainder of the period small enemy patrols operated along the Corps front. Enemy artillery fire was light.

1st Infantry Division Artillery was very active in repulsing the enemy counterattack in the zone of K Company, 16th Infantry, and fired approximately 2500 rounds mainly on defensive fires, counterbattery, infantry and vehicular activity. 3rd Armored Division Artillery reinforced the fires of the 1st Division Artillery, firing on troops, mortars and enemy batteries. Corps Artillery also reinforced the 1st Division, firing 4 counterbattery and 2 tank missions.

Three dive bomb missions were excuted by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command in support of the 9th Infantry Division with excellent results reported.

9th Infantry Division: Elements of the 60th Infantry were relieved in the vicinity of MONSCHAU (K-9418) by the 85th Reconnaissance Battalion (V Corps), and rejoined the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry. The 39th Infantry was in the process of being relieved by the 4th Cavalry Group. The Division maintained patrol contact with the enemy and continued to regroup, preparatory to resuming the attack.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to hold and consolidate positions, maintaining contact with the enemy by active patrolling. The Division Reserve continued maintenance and rehabilitation.

1st Infantry Division: Repulsed an enemy attack on the front of the 16th Infantry, early in the period with no loss of ground. Intense tank and mortar fire preceded the enemy attack. Patrols continued to make contact with the enemy.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued regrouping. Elements of the Group joined the 39th Infantry preparatory to relieving the Regiment. Other units patrolled the right (south) flank of the Corps along the line MONSCHAU (K-9418) northeast to K-9524.

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On the right flank of the Division the 30th Infantry began regrouping in preparation for being relieved by elements of the 4th Cavalry Group. The 60th Infantry conducted active patrolling throughout the period, probing enemy positions to the south and southeast. The 1st Battalion, less C Company, remained in defensive positions in the vicinity of the road block at K-011355 in the 29th Engineer Combat Battalion sector. The 47th Infantry on the Division's left flank remained in defensive positions and conducted patrolling.

3rd Armored Division

While the Division reserve continued maintenance and rehabilitation in the vicinity of [illegible] at K-9540, Combat Command Boudinot continued the defense of the eastern Division zone and Combat Command Hickey the western sector. In this latter defensive sector the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, replaced the 1st Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, completing the transfer at 1000 hours. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued road patrolling throughout the Division sector without incident.

1st Infantry Division

Just after 0000 hours a small enemy force attacked the positions held by Company E, 16th Infantry, following a heavy artillery preparation on Companies E, F, and K. Tanks broke through the K Company lines and fired into pillboxes held by the Company. One box was temporarily abandoned but later reoccupied by K Company, and by 0800 the line had been completely restored. Division Artillery, reinforced by the fires of the 3rd Armored Division and Corps Artillery, was very effective in helping repel the enemy thrust and supporting the attack to restore the lines. The 16th Infantry continued to patrol and maintain contact with the enemy throughout the remainder of the period. The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, and a tank company from the 3rd Armored Division were sent to assist the 16th Infantry, but were not committed, and returned to their respective units after daylight.

There was no unusual activity in the 18th Infantry sector and routine patrolling was conducted without incident throughout the period. Meanwhile the 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry was dispatched to the 16th Infantry sector and the 2nd Battalion patrolled to the front and right of its sector to ascertain enemy intentions but uncovered little activity by the enemy. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions maintained defensive positions and continued to patrol.

4th Cavalry Group

From its assembly area in the vicinity of CAIT ELSENBORN (K-9008) the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron moved northeast to LANTERSDORF (K-0726) and started to effect relief of elements of the 30th Infantry. At the close of the period Troop A was in position and other units were moving into the line. Physical relief was not begun until after dark and was impeded by heavy enemy artillery harassing fire.

Supported by Battery C, 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron patrolled the MUSCHAU (K-9418) area and north to RJ K-9473. Approximately 70 rounds of artillery harassing fire fell in the area throughout the period. There was no change in the lines.

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Artillery

1st Division: Fired 34 harassing, 21 infantry, 7 registration, 4 machine gun, and mortar, 4 enemy gun, 2 vehicle, 2 factory, 1 tank, and 6 miscellaneous missions including marking targets for dive bombers. Rounds expended: 1255.

9th Division: Fired 38 close support, 29 harassing, 14 enemy gun, 1 tank, and 5 mortar and machine gun missions, expending 138[illegible] rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 11 infantry, 7 registration, 8 harassing, 2 interdiction, 2 OPs, 1 mortar, 1 gas works, and 1 enemy column. Rounds expended: 949.

4th Cavalry Group: Fired 46 harassing, 6 registration, 3 counterbattery, 2 infantry, and 1 OP. Rounds expended: 4[illegible].

Antiaircraft: No action was reported by the 10[illegible]th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn expended 152 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire. 703rd TD Bn fired 250 rounds of 3" HE indirect, harassing fire. The 89[illegible]th TD Bn expended 91 rounds of 3" HE indirect, harassing fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 37.

4 OCTOBER 1944

Corps troops continued active patrolling to maintain contact with the enemy, regrouping, and awaited favorable weather to permit air support in launching a new offensive drive east of the SIEGFRIED LINE. There were no changes in front line positions throughout the period.

An estimated two platoons of enemy foot troops attacked a road block at F-0139 at 0900 hours, but were driven off by our artillery fire. Our patrols operating in the vicinity south and west of AACHEN (F-8443) found only scattered enemy; small enemy patrols were observed in the STOLBERG (K-9342) - GRESCHNICH (F-9842) - MONSCHAU (K-9418) area. A slight increase in enemy 165 and 150mm artillery fire was noticeable in the MONSCHAU sector; elsewhere only sporadic, light artillery fire was reported.

Four dive bomber missions were executed by the IX Tactical Air Command in the zone of the 1st Infantry Division with good results.

9th Infantry Division: Maintained patrol contact with the enemy and continued to regroup, preparatory to resuming the attack. The 39th Infantry assembled in the WENAU FOREST, southeast of ZWIEFALL at K-985355 after being relieved in its previous position by the 4th Cavalry Group.

3rd Armored Division: Continued patrolling, maintenance of equipment, and rehabilitation of personnel.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to probe enemy lines in the vicinity of AACHEN.

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4 October

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4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol along the right (south) flank of the Corps. Completed relief of the 39th Infantry in the northern sector of its zone.

9th Infantry Division

Relief of the 39th Infantry in the LAMMERSDORF (K-9726) area was effected by elements of the 4th Cavalry Group at 0400 hours. At this time the 39th Infantry withdrew by echelon to an assembly area east of ZWEIFALL in the vicinity of K-985355 and made preperations to resume the attack southeast. This left the 60th Infantry holding the Divisional right flank and the 47th Infantry the left flank. A new boundary between the 9th Division and 4th Cavalry became effective at 2400. It ran along the general line: SILBERSCHEIDT (F-003286) - RJ at (K-990287) - RJ (K-968287) - RJ (K-928270) all to the 9th Infantry.

The 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 60th Infantry remained in positions along the front line while the 1st Battalion was relieved of positions in the 298th Engineer sector. Patrolling was conducted against the enemy front lines throughout the period. Meanwhile the 47th Infantry continued to remain in position protecting the left flank. A Company C patrol maintained contact with the 3rd Armored Division.

Between the 60th and 47th Infantry Regiments the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion continued to man 5 road blocks. The garrison of the road block at F-010390 contacted an estimated platoon of enemy on both flanks and received mortar fire from the east. A unit of the 9th Reconnaissance Troop moved up to support the block and at 1000 hours the situation was reported quiet after effective artillery fire was brought upon the enemy.

3rd Armored Division

Only patrol activity was conducted in the Division's zone throughout the period as the defensive lines remained unchanged. The 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, replaced the 3rd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, in Task Force Mills' sector of Combat Command Boudinot. At 2100 hours the 3rd Battalion closed in the assembly area vacated by the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of K-952394, north of BRUNNERBERG, under control of the Division Reserve. The Reserve continued to perform maintenance of equipment and rehabilitation of personnel. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance patrolled roads throughout the Divisional zone without incident.

1st Infantry Division

Units of the 1st Division continued to hold defensive positions, awaiting the order to the attack in which the 18th Infantry would strike north through the zone of its 3rd Battalion. All units conducted active patrolling and maintained contact with the enemy in the direction of AACHEN. The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 18th Infantry remained in reserve while the 1106th Engineer Combat Group held front line defensive posts. There was no change in the lines or location of troops.

4th Cavalry Group

Relief of the 39th Infantry was completed by the 4th Cavalry Reconnaiss-

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ance Squadron in the LAMMERSDORF area by 0400 hours. Mortar and moderately heavy and medium artillery harassing fire fell in the sector during the period, especially in the vicinity of LAMMERSDORF. Active enemy patrolling commenced after dark with horse-drawn and vehicular transportation heard in the vicinity of K-988253. Artillery and mortar fire were effective on these targets.

Defense of the MONSCHAU area was carried out by the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron. Patrols revealed that the enemy was also patrolling actively in this sector, and north to RJ (K-947234). Patrolling was also carried out by the 759th Light Tank Battalion and contact made with the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, to the north.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 50 harassing, 19 infantry, 17 propaganda, 6 vehicle, 5 defensive fires, 2 mortar, and 4 miscellaneous missions. The 50 propaganda shells which were fired contained safe conduct passes and were scattered along the Division front from HAAREN to STOLBERG. Total rounds expended were 1629.

9th Division: Fired 31 close support, 6 counterbattery, 5 mortar and machine gun, 1 harassing, and 1 pillbox. Rounds expended were 1258.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 13 harassing, 16 infantry, 8 interdiction, 8 vehicle, 3 tank, 3 enemy gun, 2 mortar, 1 pillbox, and 10 miscellaneous (OPs, CPs, registrations, etc.). Rounds expended: 2092.

4th Cavalry Group: Fired 24 interdiction, 1 registration, 6 direct support and 8 harassing missions, expending a total of 976 rounds.

Corps: Fired 52 harassing, 16 counterbattery, 6 reinforcing, 4 CPs, and 4 registrations. Rounds expended: 802.

Antiaircraft: No action was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn expended 60 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire. The 635th TD Bn fired 5 interdiction missions, expending 175 rounds, and two pillboxes were neutralized. The 703rd TD Bn expended 96 rounds of 3" HE, and 83 rounds of 90mm HE indirect, harassing fire on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER. The 899th TD Bn fired 35 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire at enemy gun emplacements.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 12.

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5 OCTOBER 1944.

Due to poor flying weather the attack of the 9th Infantry Division was postponed. All units continued to maintain patrol contact with the enemy. The enemy likewise confined his activities to patrolling except in the LANTERSDORF (K-9726) area where a force estimated at from a platoon to company strength was very aggressive throughout the period and made a slight penetration in the vicinity of KLEINBROICH (K-9926).

For the first time in the past few weeks enemy aircraft were active in considerable strength in the Corps zone. The 109th Antiaircraft Artillery Group estimated 50 Focke Wolfe-190's, 20 Messerschmitt-109's and 15 Junker's 88's were over the VII Corps area in the afternoon. Our Antiaircraft batteries had one of their most successful periods since the night of 28-29 August when 24 enemy aircraft were shot down attempting to destroy bridges over the SEINE River. Total claims by the 3 antiaircraft artillery battalions attached to the 109th AAA Group and the 3 AAA battalions with the 3 divisions of the Corps were 27 enemy aircraft destroyed, and 24 others probably destroyed. Of this total 33 had been confirmed by First Army and investigation was being conducted to ascertain the disposition of the remaining claims.

9th Infantry Division: Maintained patrol contact with the enemy. The attack planned for the 5th was postponed because of lack of air support.

2nd Armored Division: Continued patrolling, maintenance of equipment, and rehabilitation of personnel.

1st Infantry Division: Continued patrol activity from defensive positions east, southeast and southwest of AACHEN (A-0113).

4th Cavalry Group: Patrolled right (south) flank of Corps along the line, HORSCHEID (A-3410) - inclusive in the vicinity of A-3707.

30th Infantry Division

At first light the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry moved into position in the rear of the 2nd Battalion in preparation for an attack in column of battalions, but the attack did not materialize and the unit remained in place. In addition to patrolling the division right flank reconnaissance was carried out to determine the strength and location of the enemy and the condition of routes to be followed in the impending attack. Meanwhile, the 117th Infantry conducted routine patrolling on the left flank. A patrol from C Company encountered an enemy patrol in EICHENBERG (A-3910). Several casualties were sustained in the skirmish that ensued between the patrols, and at 1830 hours the 1st Platoon of B Company occupied the town as an outpost. The 120th Infantry remained in attack position in the rear of the 30th Infantry.

3rd Armored Division

Only patrol activity was conducted by the 3rd Armored Division as defensive positions were held throughout the Division zone without change in the lines or location of troops. The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion conducted routine road patrols throughout the period without contact with the enemy. Enemy activity was limited to intermittent artillery and mortar fire.

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5 October

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1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division continued to consolidate and [illegible] positions while awaiting the order to attack. The 1st and 2nd battalions of the 18th Infantry remained in assembly areas in rear of the 104th Engr Gp. The 3rd Battalion of this regiment was temporarily attached to the 26th Infantry and held defensive positions east of AACHEN. The 16th Infantry gone entered east [illegible] STREET (A-3445). The 26th Infantry maintained defensive [illegible] and the 110th Combat Group held positions to the southwest and west of that city, and [illegible] to maintain enemy contact.

4th Cavalry Group

Defense of the [illegible] area was [illegible] the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron. The platoon of [illegible] was forced to withdraw from position in the vicinity of [illegible] (A-3926) when attacked by enemy infantry and tanks. The Troop was able to reestablish and restore the situation, although the enemy continued aggressive patrolling in this sector.

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron defended and patrolled the [illegible] (A-4418) area north to [illegible] (A-4474). A small enemy patrol that infiltrated behind the squadron's lines at A-317222 was liquidated [illegible]. Light to moderate fire was received from houses, approximately 500 [illegible] the [illegible] at A-4216 at 1210 hours. The situation was relieved by the employment of [illegible] Artillery silenced small arms and heavy machine gun firing in the vicinity of [illegible] (A-4319) at 1520 hours.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 48 harassing, 10 counterbattery, 10 infantry, 4 registration, 3 mortar, 2 tank, and 39 other close support missions, expending 1724 rounds.

9th Division: Fired 10 close support, 10 harassing, 10 counterbattery, 3 mortar and machine gun, 2 tank, and 1 pillbox. Rounds expended: [illegible].

3rd Armored Division: Fired 61 harassing, 21 interdiction, 28 infantry, 7 registration, 5 enemy battery, 2 mortar, 3 OPs, 2 vehicle, [illegible] rounds expended: 1821.

4th Cavalry Group: Fired 24 interdiction, 1 registration, and 10 close support, expending a total of 351 rounds.

Corps: One gun of the 195th FA Bn (8") was adjusted by an observer from the 67th Armd FA Bn on a house containing enemy infantry. 15 rounds were fired and four direct hits scored, and the house completely demolished. Other missions were 48 harassing, 19 counterbattery, 3 registration, 2 OPs, 1 CP, and 1 strong point, a total expenditure of 731 rounds were made. Of the above missions, 12 harassing and 4 counterbattery were fired in support of the 1st Corps.

Antiaircraft: The 109th AAA Gp reported that 2 enemy aircraft were engaged, but no claims were made for the 24 hour period ending at 2400.

Tank Destroyers: 636th TD Bn fired 9 rounds of 3" AT and 1 round 3" HE direct.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 8.

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6 OCTOBER 1944

With the weather finally clearing sufficiently to permit air support, the 9th Infantry Division's new offensive began when the 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments attacked eastward toward SCHMIDT (F-0630), following an aerial bombardment. Although the attack was delayed in the morning while waiting for air support, initial progress was good, but in the afternoon direct air support missions achieved poor results and the attack against prepared defenses covered by heavy fire of all types bogged down to a limited advance.

Enemy forces composed of the 860th Infantry Regiment and the 328th Replacement Battalion, fighting from well camouflaged pillboxes and hasty field fortifications further augmented by densely wooded terrain, strongly resisted our movement to the east in the HURTGEN (F-0435) - SCHMIDT area. A small enemy force attempted to overrun a road block in the vicinity of STOLBERG (K-9342) at 1830 hours, but were quickly driven off. Elsewhere in the Corps zone of action only scattered contact was made with the enemy by our patrols.

Although pierced at several points, the SIEGFRIED LINE continued to be the enemy's main defensive line, and this line he was endeavoring to hold until driven bodily from its defenses. Where penetrations had occurred the defenders attempted to seal them off by local counterattacks and by the erection of hasty field fortifications manned by infantry. Armored units were withdrawn.

Many of the units that manned the defenses of the SIEGFRIED LINE had been hastily organized, some with little or no training and composed of a conglomeration of all branches and service. Although classed as inferior troops, these units served well the purpose for which they were intended, to occupy concrete bunkers, as this purpose was one where training was not at a premium.

In addition to the SIEGFRIED LINE other defensive obstacles had been discovered in the vicinity of DUREN (F-1246) and NIDEGGEN (F-1133), consisting of weapon pits, foxholes, AA and AT emplacements, and along both banks of the RHINE trenches, heavy antiaircraft positions, smoke generators, and other military installations had been spotted from aerial photographs.

It was estimated by G-2 that the enemy forces opposing the Corps at this time numbered 14,530 troops, roughly 30 battalions, comprising elements of five divisions; namely 264th Infantry, 12th Infantry, 526th Mobilization, 347th Infantry, and 353rd Infantry Divisions. Included in and supporting this force, it was estimated that there were 7 battalions of light artillery, 4 medium battalions, and 3 heavy battalions of 2 batteries each. In addition, 6 heavy and 30 40 medium self-propelled roving guns were operating on the Corps front. An enemy reserve force stimated at 27,000 was available.

9th Infantry Division: Following a dive bombing attack, the 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments attacked eastward and made only limited gains against prepared defenses consisting of barbed wire entanglements covered by fire, pillboxes, dug-in infantry, and intense large calibre mortar, artillery, and small arms fire.

3rd Armored Division: Continued patrolling, maintenance of equipment, and rehabilitation of personnel.

1st Infantry Division: Maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

4th Cavalry Group: Patrolled right (south) flank of the Corps along the line from the NO in vicinity of K-9328 to [illegible] (K-9418).

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6 October

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9th Infantry Division

The attack plan of the 9th Division was as follows: 39th Infantry would attack 2 battalions abreast, astride the road from ZWEIFALL (K-9856) to VOSSENACK (F-0433), and upon seizure of the main highway at GERMETER (F-0233), provision was to be made to protect the left flank with particular attention to armor. After seizing the GERMETER road centers, the 39th Infantry would push its attack to its final objective--the isolation of SCHMIDT (F-0630).

In a column of battalions the 60th Infantry would make its initial effort on the left to assist the advance of the 39th Infantry to its initial objective (GERMETER). The 3rd Battalion on the right flank was to make a diversion; upon the seizure of the road and high ground in the vicinity of RICHELSKOUL (F-0232) it was to attack south and capture the final objective, the commanding ground and road center southeast of TODTEN-BRUCH (F-0032).

Protection of the left flank of the Division was assigned the 47th Infantry in conjunction with the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion.

Following a dive bombing mission on strong points at 0940 and an artillery preperation at 1120, the 60th Infantry, on the Division right flank, attacked at 1130 hours. The 2nd Battalion on the left made the principal effort and rapid progress was made until within 1000 yards of the objective---the road and high ground in the vicinity of RICHELSKOUL. Further advance was impossible and at the close of the period the Battalion held a north-south line through F-006325, just west of the creek, WEISSER WEH BACH, facing the enemy's positions across the wide firebreak.

The first Battalion following to the right rear of the 2nd Battalion received heavy artillery and machine gun fire when the enemy's wire-in positions were reached on the right flank. At 1545 hours the Battalion was withdrawn and ordered to envelop the enemy positions from the north. The Battalion moved north and by dark reached a position in the vicinity of F-002738. Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion with the mission of deverting the enemy from the main effort, assaulted a pillbox to the east, and became engaged with the enemy's left flank. At the close of the period the 3rd Battalion was facing a line running south from the pillbox at F-000317. Plans were made for the employment of a 155mm self-propelled gun against the pillbox the next day.

The 39th Infantry jumped off at 1130 hours, following a dive bombing attack by two groups of the 4X TAC on strong points immediately in front of the Regiment, and an artillery preparation. Small arms fire was immediately encountered from the enemy controlling road blocks at F-008330 as the advance got underway with the 1st Battalion on the right and the 3rd Battalion on the left. The attack was pushed forward to the road where the 1st Battalion was held up by four defended pillboxes. The 3rd Battalion after crossing the road was held up by the same pillboxes. Three of these pillboxes were eventually reduced. In the operation 62 prisoners were captured. At the close of the period the 1st and 3rd Battalions held a line just west of GERMETER as follows: F-017337 - F-019333 - F-014334 - F-014332 - F-013330. The 2nd Battalion, which had been held in reserve, moved forward rapidly behind the leading elements and blocked roads with companies at F-002346, F-004344, and F-014339.

Charged with maintaining defensive positions and protecting the left flank of the Division, the 47th Infantry in conjunction with the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion, carried out this mission, and conducted active patrolling. A small

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enemy group that entered the area of Company F, 47th Infantry, was beaten off. The Engineers continued to hold the same roadblocks between the 47th and 60th Infantry Regiments.

3rd Armored Division

Both Combat Commands continued to defend within their zones, Combat Command Boudinot on the eastern section of the Division, and Combat Command Hickey in the western. There was no change in the Division Reserve and maintenance of equipment and rehabilitation of personnel continued. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion patrolled roads and reconnoitered throughout the zone without incident.

1st Infantry Division

The 16th Infantry, 3rd Battalion 18th Infantry, attached, further consolidated and improved positions, and maintained contact with the enemy by active patrolling. The 26th Infantry likewise continued to hold its defensive positions and patrol. The 1st Battalion remained in Division Reserve, prepared to counterattack in either the zone of the 18th or 26th Infantry Regiments. Meanwhile the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 18th Infantry remained in assembly areas, awaiting orders to attack.

4th Cavalry Group

While the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was patrolling the area in and around LAMMERSDORF (K-9728) north to the boundary between the Group and the 9th Division, the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron patrolled from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to RJ (K-9423). Light enemy contact was maintained in the 4th Cavalry sector. The MONSCHAU area was very quiet throughout the period. The 759th Light Tank Battalion also patrolled in the Group zone and maintained contact with elements of the 60th Infantry, 9th Division at K-978313 and K-983308.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired a 4-Battalion TOT mission on WURSELEN (K-8748) in support of XIX Corps. Other missions included 43 harassing, 14 personnel, 9 vehicle, 4 OP, 3 mortar, 2 pillbox, 2 machine gun, 1 fuel dump, 1 counterbattery, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended were 1072.

9th Division: Fired 25 missions during preparation for the Division attack and continued to support the attack with the following missions: 48 close support, 33 harassing, 26 mortar and machine gun, and 20 enemy batteries (11 located by sound, 2 by AOP, 1 by FO, and 6 suspected locations). Rounds expended were 4897.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 14 infantry, 13 harassing, 9 enemy battery, 8 registration, 6 mortar, 6 vehicle, 4 interdiction, 3 OP, 3 CP, 2 factory, and 1 pillbox. Rounds expended: 1706.

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armd FA Bn fired 11 interdiction, 5 harassing, 4 counterbattery, 2 personnel, 1 OP, 1 machine gun, 1 mortar, and 1 pillbox missions, expending 730 rounds.

Corps: A 7th FA Bn Air OP adjusted the 195th FA Bn (8" H) on a factory.

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5 rounds were fired, all of which were direct hits at a range of appoximately 14,000 yards. Other missions included 56 harassing, 28 counterbattery, 9 registration, 1 pillbox, and 4 troop assembly area, a total of 1008 rounds were expended.

Antiairdraft: Activity for period reported on previous day.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn expended 48 rounds of 3" HE indirect, harassing fire; the 635th TD Bn expended 12 rounds of 3" HE direct and 227 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire; 703rd TD Bn fired 36 rounds of 3" HE, and 120 rounds of 90mm HE indirect. This is the first Tank Destroyer unit to receive the new 90mm gun on the European Continent.

The 899th TD Bn expended 25 rounds of 3" HE, 15 rounds of 3" HE direct, and 389 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 88.

7 OCTOBER 1944

Despite excellent close support from dive-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command only limited gains were made against stiff resistance and very difficult terrain by the 9th Division as the attack southeastward was renewed. Elsewhereon the Corps front units maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

Enemy forces continued to strongly resist our advance southwest of HURTGEN (F-0435) from an organized defense of well camouflaged pillboxes and wired in positions, augmented by artillery and mortar fire. Otherwise in the Corps zone only light enemy patrolling on a decreased scale was encountered during the period. Moderate to heavy artillery fire fell throughout the day southwest of HURTGEN. Other points throughout the Corps area reported only scattered light artillery.

A group of dive-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command in support of the Corps troops, executed planned missions for the 9th Division, and hit enemy strong points in the early morning with excellent results. Direct support missions were conducted for the 9th Division in the afternoon by three squadrons with excellent results.

9th Infantry Division: 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments resumed the attack at 0800, making limited gains during the day against organized enemy positions in field fortifications, pillboxes, and fortified houses. The advance was handicaped by thick forest and wet ground. Enemy opposition was very determined. Sporadic, intense artillery fire was also encountered.

3rd Armored Division: Maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Maintained contact with the enemy by patrolling. Late in the period the 18th Infantry began movement to a new assembly area, in preparation for attack to the north.

4th Cavalry Group: Patrolled the right (south) flank of the Corps, and maintained contact with the 102nd Cavalry Group (V Corps).

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9th Infantry Division

The 60th Infantry renewed the attack at 0800 following an artillery preparation. The 1st Battalion on the left had the mission of moving southeast and cutting the main road between the 2nd Battalion, and the 1st Battalion of the 39th Infantry to the left. The 1st Battalion made fair progress, reaching the road at 0900 hours, and by 1030 Company C was on the objective in the vicinity of RICHELSKOUL at F-017322. The GERMETER (F-0233) - ROLLESBROICH (F-9926) road was cut. An unsuccessful attempt was made to bring the tanks across the swampy stream east of the road. By 1500 Company B was on the objective and Company A was moved down the road to F-013324. A pillbox at F-015325 was reduced by 1900, and two road blocks with AT guns were established south of the CR at F-019324.

Having supported the advance of the 1st Battalion by fire, the 2nd Battalion then tried to advance but was held up by artillery and strong enemy frontal resistance. An attempt to envelope the enemy flank from the north with Company E was unsuccessful, and the advance of G Company to the southeast was stopped by small arms fire and AP mines. At the close of the period the 2nd Battalion occupied a position 1000 meters west of the 1st Battalion along the lines F-005327 - F-010325.

The 39th Infantry jumped off at 0800 supported by artillery, after having received heavy enemy shelling during the night and early morning hours. Strong resistance from pillboxes and field defenses was encountered. After an advance of about 100 yards the 1st Battalion on the right came under heavy mortar, artillery, and small arms fire from the enemy which had succeeded in infiltrating around the left flank of F Company to the rear. These Germans were cleaned out by Company G after a two hour fight. The 1st Battalion pushed forward until held up by a pillbox at F-019333, with the right flank advancing slightly against opposition from buildings near the main road in the vicinity of F-021329. The 3rd Battalion on the left advanced against strong resistance to positions generally abreast of the 1st Battalion. Throughout the day units received small arms fire from the front and sporadic mortar and artillery fire on forward elements. Under the cover of darkness tanks were brought up.

On the left flank of the Division the 47th Infantry carried out its defensive mission and maintained enemy contact with light patrol activity. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion continued to man road blocks between the 60th and 47th Infantry Regiments.

3rd Armored Division

Activity of both Combat Commands Boudinot and Hickey was limited to light patrolling as the Division continued the defense of its zone. In the right sector, held by Combat Command Boudinot, Task Force Mills (1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment) was relieved by Task Force Lovelady at 1600 hours, south of DUFFENTER (K-9543). In the afternoon Combat Command Hickey was ordered to be prepared to send a tank battalion to the 1st Division, and the Reserve was ordered to be prepared to send a tank battalion to reinforce the 9th Division.

1st Infantry Division

In the right sector of the Division zone the 16th Infantry, 3rd Battalion of the 18th Infantry, attached, continued to maintain defensive positions while combat patrols reconnoitered within the enemy lines to learn his intentions. The

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26th Infantry, occupying positions to the left of the 16th Infantry, maintained defensive positions during the period while combat and reconnaissance patrols were actively probing the enemy lines. The 18th Infantry moved to attack assembly areas at K-905435 and K-881434 prepared to attack. Defensive positions on the Division left were held by the 1106th Engineer Combat Group.

4th Cavalry Group

While the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron had very light contact with the enemy in the southern (right) sector of the Group zone in the vicinity of MONSCHAU (K-8818), the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron encountered increasingly aggressive enemy patrols and reported an increase of movement in the northern sector.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 35 missions in preparation for attack and the following additional missions: 65 harassing, 35 personnel, 18 counterbattery, 18 propaganda, 8 vehicle, 7 smoke, (on enemy CPs), 7 target marking (for dive bombers), 3 OPs, and 37 miscellaneous, expending a total of 4929 rounds.

9th Division: Fired 24 missions in preparation for the Division attack and supported the attack throughout the period with 15 enemy battery, 23 harassing, 10 mortar and machine guns, and 69 other close support missions. Rounds expended: 4778.

3rd Armored Division: Fired a preparation consisting of 36 missions to assist the attack of the 1st Division. In addition the following missions were fired: 31 harassing, 18 infantry, 9 enemy battery, 4 mortar, 4 OPs, 4 vehicle, 3 registration, and 1 defensive fire. Rounds expended: 2777.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 15 interdiction, 7 mortar and machine gun, 6 infantry, 4 vehicle, 2 harassing, 1 CP, and 1 pillbox, expending 695 rounds.

Corps: Fired a preparation consisting of 18 missions in support of the attack. In addition 30 counterbattery, 42 interdiction, and harassing, 6 infantry, and 4 registrations were fired. Rounds expended were 2034.

Antiaircraft: The 109th AAA Gp reported no enemy aerial activity for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn expended 48 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire; 635th TD Bn fired 422 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire; 703rd TD Bn fired 84 rounds of 3" HE, and 175 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER; 899th TD Bn expended 85 rounds of 3" HE indirect interdiction fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 59.

8 OCTOBER 1944

While the 9th Division continued its attack to the southwest making little advance, the 1st Division renewed its attack to the north and made limited gains in which initial objectives, VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) and CRUCIFIX HILL (K-875457) were captured. Other Corps units maintained defensive positions and carried out routine patrolling.

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This drive was the initial phase of the Corps attack in compliance with First U.S. Army directive, issued 29 September, with the following instructions; VII Corps will establish contact with XIX Corps along the Corps boundary, northeast of AACHEN (K-8443) at the earliest possible moment and thereby isolate AACHEN, and then clear the city as the situation permitted. After establishing contact with the XIX Corps, northeast of AACHEN, a coordinated attack, supported by all available air effort, was to be launched to seize and secure DUREN (F-1246). The Corps was then to be prepared to advance on Army order from DUREN to the RHINE River in the vicinity of KOLN (COLOGNE) (F-4661).

Scattered enemy resistance from pillboxes and light artillery fire was encountered by the 18th Infantry in seizing VERLAUTENHEIDE and the high ground to the west of the town. Patrols were able to reach the railroad running from AACHEN (K-8443) at K-862426) against scattered small arms and machine gun fire. In the HURTGEN (F-0435) - SCHMIDT (F-0630) sector, the enemy launched a series of small scale counter-attacks supported by artillery and mortar fire from well fortified pillboxes on the high ground west of the GERMETER Road. Hasty field fortifications in the area were well dug-in and protected by mines and wire entanglement. Only light enemy patrol activity took place in the STOLBERG (K-9842 - GRESSENICH (K-9842) area during the period.

Enemy defenses in the HURTGEN - SCHMIDT area were further augmented by the addition of several new battalions. Besides the importation of two miscellaneous battalions, units of the 252nd Regiment and the 246th Artillery Regiment were identified. A battalion of the 211th Infantry Division was identified on the 18th Infantry front in the vicinity of VERLAUTENHEIDE.

A number of P-47's with American and British markings strafed and bombed ROTGEN (K-9129). Originally thought by G-2 to have been FW-190's these planes were identified by the 109th AAA Group as P-47s. Approximately 10 bombs were dropped near the railroad station in ROTGEN, and a house was burned to the ground at K-9129. The planes circled after the bombing attack and strafed the gun positions of an antiaircraft battery. The executive officer of the strafed battery reported that 2 P-51s had been circling over the STOLBERG area before the P-47s appeared, and apparently the two P-51s lead the P-47s to the vicinity of ROTGEN before the attack. Red floresoent pannels and orange smoke were displayed but the planes continued the attack. An antiaircraft battalion commander observed a flight of P-47s at 071200 hours dipping their wings to a flight of Me-109s, and the Me-109s returned the salute.

One group of dive bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command hit enemy strong points in the vicinity of HAAREN (K-865455) on planned missions for the 1st Division with excellent results. During the afternoon three squadrons furnished direct support for the 1st Division but the results were very poor. Another squadron hit enemy strong points and a supply center for the 9th Division during the afternoon with good results. Dive bombers had difficulty finding the targets during the day due to ground haze. Armed reconnaissance was also carried out by the IX TAC on the Corps front.

9th Infantry Division: Local counter-attacks, strong enemy pressure and heavy artillery fire pinned down the attack of the 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments, and no appreciable gains were made. Both renewed the attack at 1100, making little progress against stubborn enemy resistance. The 39th Infantry encountered pillboxes, automatic weapons and heavy artillery fire. Intense automatic weapons fire from well camouflaged positions in the dense underbrush held up the 60th Infantry.

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3rd Armored Division: Maintained patrol contact with the enemy and continued maintenance of equipment and rehabilitation of personnel.

1st Infantry Division: 18th Infantry attacked at 0400 to drive north and establish contact with the 30th Division (XIX Corps) to isolate AACHEN, making limited advances. Stubborn resistance was encountered from pillboxes, small arms, machine gun, mortar and artillery fire. 2nd Battalion reached VERLAUTENHEIDE, the objective, and the 1st Battalion occupied CRUCIFIX HILL.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the right (south) flank of the Corps along the line MONSCHAU (K-9418) northeast to K-9928, northeast of LAMMERSDORF, maintaining contact with the 102nd Cavalry Group (V Corps) and had light contact with the enemy.

9th Infantry Division

After repulsing a light counter-attack against the 1st Battalion at 0820 hours, the 60th Infantry resumed the attack with the 1st Battalion assigned the mission of securing the main road to the east. Heavy resistance was met immediately from small arms, mortar and artillery fire. AP and AT mines were also encountered and very little progress was made against the enemy's well organized defenses. The enemy continued the practice of an active defenses and launched a series of small scale counter-attacks, all of which were repulsed, but prevented any appreciable advance of our troops. Routes for tanks were reconnoitered and cleared of mines, and by dark the Battalion held the general line: F-019326 - F-017324.

The 2nd Battalion attempting to advance to the south, was counter-attacked at approximately 0900 hours. The German attack was throuwn back but further attempts to advance against strong resistance were unsuccessful. The need for tank support was apparent and work on a heavy road block was commenced to enable armored units to join the infantry battalion. Final positions of the 2nd Battalion were F-005324 - F-008326 - F011325. Defensive positions of the 3rd Battalion, protecting the right flank, remained unchanged.

In the zone of the 39th Infantry the enemy laid down a heavy artillery concentration at about 0700 hours which caused a number of casualties and some disorganization. The Regiment reorganized and jumped off at 1100, receiving continued mortar and long-range artillery fire, as well as small arms fire from the infiltration on the left flank. The 1st Battalion cleaned out resistance on the right flank and made contact with the 60th Infantry by patrols. Enemy pressure on the left flank continued throughout the day. The advance was slowed by mined roads and road blocks on firebreaks, making it impracticable to bring up tanks to support the 3rd Battalion and knock out enemy pillboxes and field fortifications. A slight advance was made through the woods in which road blocks and mines were cleared. Final positions of the 39th Infantry were as follows: 1st Battalion, just west of GERMETER at F-021333 - F-021327, the 3rd Battalion at F-019338 - F-021338, and the 2nd Battalion in reserve at F-004345 - F-010339.

1st Infantry Division

On the opposite (left) flank from the 9th Division, the 1st Division renewed its attack northward to isolate AACHEN in accordance with the following plans. At 0400 the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 18th Infantry, would attack through the zone of the 3rd Battalion, west of EILENDORF (K-8943) to secure the road

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centers in and around VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) and the commanding ground and roads to the northeast. The 1st Battalion was to take control of the roads in the vicinity of HAAREN (K-8745).

The attack of the 18th Infantry was to be supported by the fires of the 16th Infantry, which was also to make a demonstration to the north. The 26th Infantry was also order to hold its defensive line and made a demonstration to the north to provide diversion for the attacking 18th Infantry. Dive bombing attacks were to be preceded by medium bomb strikes on targets in the area of the objective, while fighter bombers on air alert were to attack targets of opportunity both before and during the ground attack.

At 1725 hours, 7 Sept., the Corps Commander received permission from the Commanding General, First U.S. Army, for the 18th Infantry to attack 8 Oct. at 0400. The night attack was decided upon since ~~they~~ had the 18th Infantry to cross a barren hill and the cover of darkness was felt to provide greater protection than an air bombardment.

Supported by the Division Artillery which was reinforced by the 3rd Armored and Corps Artillery fires, the 18th Infantry jumped off on time. The 2nd Battalion attacked toward VERLAUTENHEIDE, and at 0416 received small arms and machine gun fire, but kept moving toward the objective, 3000 yards away. By 0505 hours elements on the right flank were in QUINX (K-8845) between VERLAUTENHEIDE and HAAREN, although severe small arms fire was received from the west in the direction of the former place. At 0620 two companies were in VERLAUTENHEIDE and commenced cleaning out the town. Later the reserve company was moved up and "Long Toms" were used against pillboxes in the draw southwest of the town. Several counterattacks were repulsed and three pillboxes neutralized. Fighting was severe and 6 tanks were lost as the enemy continued his determined resistance.

Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion made a diversionary attack and moved to secure the left flank and occupied the ridge across the railroad tracks, south of CRUCIFIX (239) HILL (K-875457) at 0825 hours. As late as 2000 Company L was still fighting to clean out the village of ROTHE-ERDE (K-873432). The 1st Battalion which had passed through the 2nd Battalion in VERLAUTENHEIDE attacked to take CRUCIFIX (239) HILL. By 1548 leading elements of C Company reached the objective. Company A moved up and used flame throwers to clean out pillboxes in the valley south of HILL 239, encountering small arms, mortar and artillery fire. Captured ground was consolidated and preparations made to continue the attack in the morning.

Other Division units supported the attack of the 18th Infantry by making demonstrations. The 16th Infantry made a diversionary attack toward ATSCH (K-9244) and the 26th Infantry pushed to K-854416 where defensive positions were taken up to protect the west flank of the 18th Infantry. The 1106th Combat Engineers also made diversionary demonstrations. Defensive positions were consolidated by the Engineers and further improved by adding concertina wire and additional mines and flares. Routine patrolling was conducted without incident. While carrying out its diversion demonstration the Engineer Group sent an abandoned trolley car down the tracks toward AACHEN loaded with Teller-mines, 88 and 37mm ammunition but enemy small arms fire detonated the charge at K-818417) before it reached the city.

3rd Armored Division

The Division continued to defend its defensive positions throughout the period and only patrol activity was conducted. There was no change in Combat

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Command Boudinot's zone, while in the zone of Combat Command Hickey the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, withdrew to an assembly position at K-928394, and was replaced in the defensive line by the 1st Battalion of the 32nd Armored.

4th Cavalry Group

The Group defended the line: MONSCHAU (K-9418) northeast to the vicinity of ROLLESBROICH (K-9926). In the right sector (southern) the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron defended and patrolled from MONSCHAU to the road junction in the vicinity of K-947234. There was little activity. Contact was made with the 102nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (V Corps) at HOFEN (K-9516). There was no activity throughout the day on the part of the enemy as the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron patrolled the northern sector of the Group zone. The 759th Light Tank Battalion patrolled in the extreme left sector of the zone and maintained contact with the 60th Infantry (9th Division) at K-983308. The assault gun platoon provided direct support and interdiction fires.

Artillery

1st Division: Artillery was extremely active throughout the period and expended the largest number of rounds of ammunition since the present phase of the campaign opened -- 5125, firing the following missions: 4 heavy concentrations on enemy counter-attacks, 17 counterbattery, 10 mortar and machine gun, 9 vehicle, 4 counterpreparation, 7 area targets, 5 tank, and 63 miscellaneous (CPs, OPs, registrations, etc.).

9th Division: Supported the Division attack, expending a total of 6910 rounds. Fired 73 close support, 2 preparations (43 missions), 31 counterbattery (20 were sound locations), 23 mortar and maching gun, and 22 harassing.

3rd Armored Division: Fired the following missions: 10 counterbattery, 9 interdiction, 6 infantry, 6 mortar, 5 strong points, 3 harassing, 3 assembly area (1 fired, TOT with the 54th, 67th and 391st Armored 105 Bns, 991st (105 G SP), and 183rd (155 H) Bns, 2 CPs, and 1 flank battery. Rounds expended: 1085.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired the following missions: 18 interdictions, 6 infantry, 6 mortar, 3 OPs, 2 fortified positions, 1 vehicle, 1 harassing, and 1 enemy gun. Rounds expended: 640.

Corps: Supported the attacks of the 1st and 9th Infantry Divisions by firing 809 rounds on the following missions: 49 harassing, 29 counterbattery, 8 infantry, 2 pillbox, 1 strong point, and 1 registration.

Antiaircraft: Both the 474th and the 557th AAA AW Bns engaged 2 Me-109s, but no claims were made by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn expended 72 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire; 635th TD Bn expended 23 indirect fire missions, mainly on interdiction and harassing fires. Three missions were fired on enemy batteries, two on enemy barracks, and one on a mortar. 899th TD Bn fired 507 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 76.

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9 OCTOBER 1944

The pincers which First U. S. Army units were driving to close around AACHEN (K-8443), first major German city to be threatned by the Allies, was nearly closed as 1st Division troops cut the AACHEN - ALDENHOVEN (K-9856) Road, the last main exit from the city. More than 15 pillboxes were knocked out in the SIEGFRIED LINE during the day's operation as the junction of the VII and XIX Corps units northeast of the beleagured city was nearly completed.

Striving desperately to ward off the isolation of AACHEN, enemy forces struck repeatedly at the 18th Infantry east of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) in an attempt to keep open the gap and retake pillboxes in the vicinity of VERLAUTENHEIDE. The first enemy attack was launched at 0500 hours, and like all others that followed throughouthe morning and afternoon, was beaten off with heavy loss to the foe.

These attacks varied in strength from a company to an estimated battalion of infantry, supported by two battalions of artillery fire, and direct fire from tanks; each counter-attack was repulsed without loss of ground. At the close of the period, pillboxes south and southwest of VERLAUTENHEIDE had been cleared of the enemy, and the three main roads in the vicinity of K-873463 had been seized, thus cutting off practically all avenues of escape northeast of AACHEN.

To the southeast in the HURTGEN (F-0435) - SCHMIDT (F-0630) area only slight progress was made against dogged enemy resistance. House to house fighting with small arms, hand greandes and bazookas raged in the town of GERMETER (F-0233). South of this town heavy machine gun and small arms fire was encountered from well fortified positions protected by barbed wire and a profusion of anti-personnel mines. Light enemy patrolling continued in the STOLBERG (K-9342) - GRESSENICH (K-9842) area.

Moderate to heavy enemy artillery fire fell throughout the period in the VERLAUTENHEIDE and GERMETER areas; elsewhere in the Corps zone of action only scattered artillery fire was reported.

9th Infantry Division: When the 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments renewed the attack at 0700 both were immediately engaged by intense small arms, mortar, machine gun, and artillery fire. Stubborn resistance continued during the day and neither regiment made any substantial progress. Dug-in positions and pillboxes, well camouflaged by dense underbrush, were employed by the enemy and these well prepared positions were further augmented by extensive minefields and barbed wire entanglements. All were covered by small arms, machine gun, mortar, and artillery fires.

3rd Armored Division: Maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Beginning at 0400 hours and continuing until late in the afternoon, the 18th Infantry held positions gained the previous day, repulsing 12 local counter-attacks and inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. The enemy pressure came from the north, east, and west. At 1730 two companies of the 18th Infantry advanced against lessening resistance and cut the AACHEN - ALDENHOVEN Road, and two secondary roads further west.

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4th Cavalry Group: Patrolled the right (south) flank of the Corps along the line MONSCHAU (K-9418) to the RJ in the vicinity of K-9432. Light contact was maintained with the enemy. Relief of the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, less L Company, was effected later in the afternoon and the Group assumed responsibility for this sector.

9th Infantry Division

At 0700 the 60th Infantry attacked to cut the main road south of GERMETER. By 1100 the 1st Battalion had established itself firmly across the road, although opposed by stubborn resistance which included artillery and small arms fire. The enemy made repeated counter-attacks from the dense woods to the east in an attempt to dislodge the Battalion but all were successfully beaten back. A tank and a TD were destroyed by enemy AT fire from the northeast. On the right the 2nd Battalion attacked generally southeast, and extended its left flank to the north-south road to the west of the GERMETER Road, establishing a road block at F-012324. The 2nd Battalion was heavily engaged all day meeting extensive wire obstacles, and AP mines. Final positions were along the line F-004325 - F-012324. Attached tanks and TDs supported the line companies.

Meanwhile the 1st Battalion had stopped at F-019232 - F-018322 and organized defenses for the night. The 3rd Battalion was ordered to move to the rear of the 1st Battalion to be in position to attack the next day, and moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of K-998338, except for Company L and a platoon of I Company, which were left on the flank as a screening force. At 1800 hours an L Company Platoon and 2 tank destroyers were moved across the GERMETER Road on the left flank of the 1st Battalion to hold that part of the line against attacks from the north or northeast.

The 39th Infantry jumped off at 0700 to cut the main north-south road at GERMETER. On the right, the 1st Battalion immediately ran into small arms fire, but Companies B and C advanced to buildings along the main road against enemy machine gun and small arms fire from other buildings on the opposite side. Tanks supporting Company B set one house on fire from other buildings on the opposite side, and C Company attacked the enemy in another house with hand grenades. Progress was slow however, and final positions of the Battalion was along the line F-024334 - F-020328.

On the left flank of the 39th Infantry, the 3rd Battalion moved slowly against heavy artillery fire. The open ground along the axial (east-west) road necessitated a maneuver to the north by Company I, which worked a platoon across the main highway, but was driven back by heavy machine gun fire. Company L infiltrated a few men into the buildings on the west side, and a few others across the road. No further advance was made against strong enemy resistance and at the close of the period the 3rd Battalion held the general line: F-027341 - F-028337 - F-025335. In support of the attacking battalions the 2nd Battalion pushed its line north to protect the left flank of the Regiment. In order that tanks might be brought up mines and road blocks were removed along the axial road.

While holding defensive positions on the Divisional left flank the 47th Infantry maintained enemy contact by light patrolling. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion continued to hold defensive positions and road blocks in the KONIGL FOREST.

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1st Infantry Division

Operations for the 18th Infantry included the seizure of the day's objective — HILL 231 (K-864465) with one battalion, while another held VERLAUTENHEIDE, and the 3rd Battalion was to clean out HAAREN (K-8645). The 1st Battalion was given the attack mission and the 2nd Battalion ordered to move to VERLAUTENHEIDE and hold the town, and out the CR at K-879468.

After patrols from Companies I and K returned from K-871448 at 0110 it was decided to send a platoon into HAAREN, followed by a second until the town was occupied by a full company. However, if the first platoon encountered too much resistance the town would be shelled. At 0500 the 1st Battalion requested artillery fire on four enemy strong points in the vicinity of K-8746, and reported that an enemy attack was forming from the direction of VERLAUTENHEIDE. At 0410 the battalion reported its lines had been cut and the enemy counter-attacking in force. The enemy also attacked the 2nd Battalion at 0420 with the brunt of the drive falling on Company G in QUINX (K-8845). Heavy mortar and artillery fire preceded the attack on the 2nd Battalion, but it was repulsed.

The Regiment postponed the day's attack plan at 0450 until the situation cleared. Additional enemy attacks were made to dislodge G Company from QUINX and also against Company F on the southeastern side of VERLAUTENHEIDE. Enemy infantry were successful in infiltrating around Company F, but were unsupported and were repulsed with severe loss. Fire from the 4.2 mortars was effectively employed to break up an attack that was forming in the vicinity of K-892455. The ridge north of EILENDORF (K-8943) occupied by Company K was subjected to heavy mortar and artillery fire from the north.

By 0720 the attack in the vicinity of VERLAUTENHEIDE was still in progress, although the enemy was suffering heavy losses. The 3rd Battalion was ordered to clear out pillboxes southwest of HILL 239 and then move to HAAREN. Another local counter-attack was launched against the 2nd Battalion to reinforce the enemy in the vicinity of VERLAUTENHEIDE, but was stopped by accurate artillery fire. By 1102 the only enemy resistance was in VERLAUTENHEIDE, and by 1535 that town had been cleared, direct enemy artillery fire had been stopped by our artillery, and pillboxes and fortified houses reduced.

The Commanding General ordered the 18th Infantry at 1540 to execute the day's attack plan before dark. B Company moved off at 1730, followed by Company I which had moved from EILENDORF to VERLUATENHEIDE. They attacked in column toward the objective HILL 227, passing C Company on the way, and by 1955 had cut the AACHEN - WEIDEN - ALDENHOVEN Road in the vicinity of K-873426 and established road blocks.

Final positions of the 18th Infantry were as follows: 1st Battalion in the vicinity of K-877455; 2nd Battalion, VERLAUTENHEIDE; 3rd Battalion, K-868433 - K-876411; Companies I and B, K-867464 - K-872464 - K-865428.

The 16th Infantry continued active patrolling by all units throughout the period to maintain contact with the enemy, and positions were further consolidated and improved. The 26th Infantry continued to clean up the area south of the AACHEN - ESCHWEILER (K-9647) railroad tracks. By 1153 Company L had cleaned out the railroad in the vicinity of K-970435. The Company continued to work southwestward and cleaned out all pillboxes in the area. At

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1635 the enemy tried to cut off L Company in the vicinity of K-843419, but the attack was broken up and the enemy driven back. Company L reached BUSCHLISN (K-8541) and cleared it of enemy. Meanwhile Companies F and G were pushing southeast of BENERHEIDE FOREST with the right flank along the railroad tracks. By 1523 G Company had two platoons along the line; K-861423 - K-862419 and was pushing east. Company E held in the vicinity of K-861418. F Company cleaned out BEVERAU (K-8644) in hourse to house fighting. The remainder of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions held previous positions and the 1st Battalion remained in Regimental Reserve.

Patrols from the 238th Engineer Combat Battalion, 1106th Engineer Group, took HILL 203, and held it throughout the period. Other elements of the Group continued active patrolling and carried out the defensive mission on the left flank of the Division.

3rd Armored Division

Defensive positions within the Division zone were maintained throughout the period. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion was attached to Combat Command Hickey, and relieved the 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, which reverted to the Reserve at 0030. Routine patrols were continued. Enemy activity consisted of intermittent artillery and mortar fire, and limited patrolling.

4th Cavalry Group

A new boundary between the Cavalry Group and the 9th Division became effective at 1900 as follows: RJ at (F-005317) - RJ at (K-990320) - RJ at (K-940302), all inclusive to the Cavalry. This extended the zone of the Group northward and necessitated the relief of the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry. The responsibility for the new sector was given to the 759th Light Tank Battalion, less Companies A and C, Company A, 297th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached. The Tank Battalion moved into the new area before dark and effected the relief of the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, at 1905 hours.

On the opposite flank of the Group zone (southern) the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron carried out routine patrolling in conjunction with its defensive mission in the area: MONSCHAU (K-9418) north to RJ at (K-947234). The 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Company C, 759th Light Tank Battalion, attached, provided defense of the ROTGEN (K-9428) - RJ K-940264 area and patrolled without enemy contact.

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron patrolled its zone between the Tank and Tank Destroyer Battalions' area and had light contact with enemy patrols. Artillery was placed upon enemy troop and vehicular movement with good effect. Several enemy patrols which attempted to infiltrate into the area were driven off by our troops.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: Supported the attack, firing 62 harassing, 36 infantry, 9 vehicle, 9 counterbattery, 7 counter-attack, 5 machine guns and mortar, and 53 miscellaneous missions, (CPs, OPs, registrations, etc). In addition propaganda shells were fired into AACHEN. Rounds expended: 4316.

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9th Infantry Division: Fired 16 missions in preparation for the Division attack and continued the support of the attack with the following missions: 51 enemy battery (38 located by sound; others by AOP and the information from captured maps and prisoner of war interrogation), 77 close support, 15 harassing, 9 mortar and machine gun, and 1 pillbox. Rounds expended: 5159.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 10 enemy battery, 8 interdiction, 7 harassing, 5 registration, 4 infantry, 3 flak battery, and 1 enemy patrol. Rounds expended: 790.

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion fired 16 interdiction, 5 mortar, 3 infantry, 1 vehicle, 1 machine gun, and 1 CP. Rounds expended: 660.

Corps: A forward observer from the 3rd Armd Div adjusted 195th FA Bn (8" H) on a school building containing an enemy CP. A total of 23 rounds were fired on this target with 15 hits obtained, and the results were reported as very good.

An observer from the 188th FA Bn (155 H) adjusted the Battalion on 3 strong points with good effect. On one mission 3 direct hits out of 14 rounds were obtained on a pillbox at 12,000 yards. Other missions fired included 38 interdiction and harassing, 16 counterbattery, 4 infantry, 3 AA battery, 1 CP and 1 registration. Rounds expended: 735. Several of the above missions were fired on request for the 1st Infantry Division Artillery, and 1 counterbattery was fired on request of XIX Corps.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn engaged a pillbox with direct fire and caused the 35 German occupants to surrender; 635th TD Bn expended 27 rounds of 3" [illegible] AP and 24 rounds of 3" HE direct fire. Expended 196 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire. 899th TD Bn fired 344 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 363.

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The Corps continued the drive north to make contact with the XIX Corps, northeast of AACHEN (K-8443) and complete the isolation of the city. The high ground to the northeast of AACHEN was captured and positions consolidated as the encirclement of the city was nearly completed. Numerous local counterattacks were repulsed on this front. To the southeast limited gains were made as our troops crossed the main road in GERMETER (F-0233) in strength. Other units continued pressure against the enemy or maintained contact by active patrolling.

On orders of the Commanding General, VII Corps, an ultimatum was presented to the military and civil leaders and the people of AACHEN. The ultimatum was delivered at 1050 hours, and gave the enemy forces in AACHEN 24 hours to surrender the city unconditionally in order to spare the city from useless destruction. During the afternoon 210 rounds of pamphlets giving the details of the ultimatum were fired into the city. Two public address systems were used to broadcast the terms of the ultimatum to front-line troops. The LUXEMBOURG radio also broadcast the terms of the ultimatum to the German people.

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The ultimatum stated: "The city of AACHEN is now completely surrounded by American forces who are sufficiently equipped with both air power and artillery to destroy the city, if necessary. We shall take the city either by receiving its immediate unconditional surrender or by attacking and destroying it."

Enemy resistance along the line running from AACHEN to HAAREN (K-8645) and south to VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) was stubborn throughout the period with the enemy counter-attacking all along the line in an effort to keep an escape and supply route open to AACHEN. At 0200 the enemy counter-attacked from the north in company strength the position of the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry on CRUCIFIX HILL (K-876448); our forces in HAAREN were attacked throughout the day from the west; while the attacks on VERLAUTENHEIDE came from the east. Artillery, mortar, machine gun, and direct tank fire was received during the period.

Southwest of HURTGEN (F-0435) house to house fighting continued in GERMETER where the enemy fought desperately from well fortified positions. South of GERMETER enemy resistance lessened and the 60th Infantry moved across the road junction at RICHELSKOUL (F-0232) and at RAFFETSBRAND (F-017307). Artillery and mortar fire fell throughout the period, and enemy patrols were active in the LAMMERSDORF (K-9726) area.

During the day the total number of prisoners captured by the Corps since D-Day, 125 days ago, passed the 100,000 mark.

9th Infantry Division: 39th Infantry renewed the attack at 0800 and were immediately heavily engaged. During the afternoon the 39th Infantry pushed southeast across the main road in GERMETER (F-0233) in strength, and house to house fighting continued in the town throughout the period. The 47th Infantry made a diversionary attack to the east and met stiff resistance, encountering wire, machine gun, mortar, and artillery fire. Remainder of the Regiment held defensive position and maintained patrols. The 60th Infantry attacked at 1200 against stiff resistance, composed of small arms, mortar and artillery fire.

3rd Armored Division: Maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Elements of the 18th Infantry took HILL 231 (K-865467) northeast of AACHEN early in the morning. Other elements of the 18th Infantry attacked HAAREN at 0730 meeting scattered small arms resistance. Resistance increased and there was house to house fighting the remainder of the day, with the enemy making a local counter-attack late in the afternoon which was beaten off. The remainder of the 18th Infantry held positions during the period, consolidating, and repulsing numerous local enemy attacks. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the enemy. Constant pressure was maintained on the 18th Infantry from the east, north, and west. The 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry attacked at 1600 and leading elements reached the objective of the high ground in the vicinity of KALKOFEN GUT (K-861441) by 1900 meeting small arms, mashing gun and mortar fire. The remainder of the Division maintained pressure on the enemy. The Division issued a 24 hour ultimatum of unconditional surrender to the German forces in AACHEN during the morning. No reply was received by the close of the period.

4th Cavalry Group: Made diversionary attack to east, at 1230, to relieve enemy pressure in front of the 9th Division attack. Leading elements advanced to vicinity of ROLLESBROICH (K-995266), meeting stiff opposition. By

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dark all elements returned to positions held before making the attack. Patrolled right (south) flank of Corps along line: MONSCHAU (K-9418) - K-9432, and maintained contact with the V Corps.

9th Infantry Division

During the morning the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, assembled in the rear of the 1st Battalion, and when the 1st Battalion jumped off at 1200, Company I took over the defense of positions in the vicinity of RICHELSKOUL (F-0232). Preceded by a heavy, moving artillery preparation, the attack to the south made good progress. Pillbox at F-017320 was by-passed, and by 1500 hours the Battalion was on the objective high ground with Company A on the hill at F-007305, and Company B on the hill across the road at F-012303. At 1400 the 3rd Battalion was ordered to move up behind the 1st Battalion and by 1800 hours had occupied positions south of the RJ at RICHELSKOUL. The 2nd Battalion held the same positions as the previous day, and probed enemy lines to the south, receiving vigorous enemy reactions throughout the day. Most of the 125 prisoners taken were captured by the 1st Battalion.

During the night and at dawn enemy infiltrated between the two left platoons of Company I, and the balance of the 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry, cutting off the platoons by fire and killing, wounding or capturing all but a few. Efforts were made to reestablish contact with these platoons, and although the situation disrupted plans for the attack, the Regiment jumped off on schedule at 0800. Heavy fire was encountered from self-propelled guns and small arms. Patrols were sent around the right flank by the 1st Battalion, to get to the rear of the enemy psoitions. Continued attempts and pressure against the enemy resulted in both the 1st and 3rd Battalions getting elements across the road at about 1430 hours.

At 1500 hours all of Companies I, K, and L were across, and had some men in the house at RJ (K-020325). The advance was slow as enemy forces, had to be cleaned out of buildings and houses on both sides of the road. After 1600 further attempts at infiltration across the open area beyond the woods were met with extremely heavy mortar and artillery fire. The 2nd Battalion pushed to the north, and established a line: F-017340 - F-027339. Company G was relieved by the 298th Engineers of road blocks at F-009351, F-009346, F-009342, and F-013339, and assembled north of GERMETER in the HURTGEN FOREST at F-017337. A total of 58 enemy were captured during the period.

The 47th Infantry, on the Divisions left flank, countinued to hold defensive positions, and Company E (Regimental Reserve) delivered a diversionary attack to the southeast toward the RJ at F-021384 with the object of containing the enemy in that sector while the 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments made the main effort further south. Supported by an artillery preparation and prearranged artillery concentrations along the route of advance, Company E, reinforced, jumped off at 1300 hours from an LD running through the road block at F-010390. Additional support was provided by Company C, 87th Chmical Battalion, which put down smoke at F-021405 and F-019398 from 1300 to 1310 hours, and by G Company, 47th Infantry, which made a vigorous demonstration with fire from its position on the right flank. Company E advanced rapidly. Small arms fire was encountered at F-011374 as the Company pushed on to reach the lines: F-011387 - F-018384, where in addition to small arms fire, machine gun and mortar fire was received from a strong, wired-in, enemy defensive position. An attempt was made to flank the position from the right with the support platoon, but

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the platoon was unable to locate the enemy's flank. At dark E Company dug-in for the night. The demonstration by G Company drew condiderable mortar and artillery fire on its position and this continued throughout the afternoon, and at the close of the period the 3rd Battalion was receiving a heavy shelling.

1st Infantry Division

Early in the morning B Company of the 18th Infantry reached the objective ground northeast of AACHEN, HILL 203 (K-865467). The enemy counter-attacked Company C on the northeast end of CRUCIFIX HILL (K-875457) at 0600 hours and captured 4 pillboxes which were held throughout the day. At 1800 hours A Company attacked to regain these pillboxes and with the help of I Company also sought to cut the remaining roads running northeast from AACHEN. Pressure was maintained against the enemy until the close of the period. Both friendly and enemy artillery fires were heavy. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion, after beating off a counter-attack from the north at 0220, which was completely repulsed by 0300 hours, held its defensive positions throughout the period against a series of local enemy counter-attacks. At 0730 the 3rd Battalion attacked from CRUCIFIX HILL to clear the enemy from HAAREN. Company L lead the attack and by 1053 was on the objective in the northeast part of the town. House to house, street fighting, was required to clean up enemy resistance in HAAREN. This was being cleaned up and consolidated at the end of the day. Constant pressure was maintained against the Regiment by the enemy from three sides, east, north, and west. These counter-attacks made it impossible for the Division to attain the day's objective -- the seizure of the high ground in the RAVELS-B (K-8646) WEIDEN (K-8746) area, and establish contact with XIX Corps in the vicinity WURSELEN (K-8649).

The 3rd Battalion of the 26th Infantry attacked at 1600 and leading elements reached the objective, the high ground in the vicinity of KALKOFEN GUT, (K-861441) by 1900, although opposition was strong and heavy small arms, machine gun, mortar, and some artillery fire was encountered. A party was sent into AACHEN at 1000 hours with the surrender ultimatum. Other units countinued to clean up enemy in the direction of AACHEN and presure was continued against the enemy. The 16th Infantry ~~Division~~ held its defensive positions and consolidated. Active patrols maintained contact with the enemy.

At 0930 hours a platoon of the 238th Engineer Combat Battalion, 1106th Engineer Combat Group, was attacked by an estimated company of enemy infantry, supported by artillery fire, and at 1000 was forced to withdraw from its commanding position under the cover of our supporting artillery fires.

3rd Armored Division

All units of the Division remained in the same positions as the previous day and continued the defense of the front lines. Both Combat Command Boudinot and Hickey reported artillery and mortar fire fell in their sectors throughout the period with the heaviest enemy concentration between 1600 and 1800 hours. Otherwise there was little enemy activity.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron initiated 4 strong patrols as a diversionary attack to the east, following an artillery preparation by the 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion, and

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our AG guns. The attackers advanced to ROLLESBROICH, and the ROLLESBROICH - SIMMERATH Road against enemy small arms, machine gun and mortar fire. Patrols later withdrew with moderate losses to the positions they occupied before the demonstration. Approximately 105 rounds of light and heavy enemy artillery fell on front line positions during this period.

A diversionary attack was also made by the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron on a pillbox at K-958226. Heavy enemy artillery fire pinned down the patrol making the attack. Other units of the 24th Cavalry maintained patrols throughout the southern sector of the Group zone. Contact was maintained with the 60th Infantry on the left by the 759th Light Tank Battalion. Enemy patrols attacked the machine gun nest at K-958226 with hand grenades and machine pistols, but were repulsed. The 635th Tank Destroyers Battalion provided defense of the ROTGEN (K-9128) - RJ (K-940264) area.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 23 preparation missions in addition to 30 personnel, 23 enemy battery, 16 interdiction, 12 vehicle, 12 target marking, 4 tank, 4 pillbox, 1 strong point, and 15 miscellaneous (OPs, CPs, registrations, etc). Rounds expended: 3654.

9th Division: Fired 41 missions in preparation for the attack and 50 close support, 37 enemy batteries (12 located by sound), 16 mortar and machine gun, and 16 harassing, expending 3595 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 46 harassing, 7 enemy batteries, 10 infantry, 3 interdiction, and 10 miscellaneous (CPs, OPs, registrations, etc.), expending 1005 rounds.

4th Cavalry Group: 87th Armd FA Bn fired 8 preparation missions in support of the diversionary attack of the Group. Other missions included 17 interdiction, 3 machine gun, 3 infantry, 3 mortar, 2 OP, and 1 harassing, expending a total of 770 rounds.

Corps: Fired 37 interdiction, 26 counterbattery, 21 harassing, and 3 enemy infantry missions. Rounds expended: 976.

During the afternoon the 13th FA Obsn Bn reported 10 single guns, believed to have been a battalion, firing simultaneously from the same general area. Later when the 1st Inf Div reported harassing fire coming from the same area, Corps Arty placed a TOT of 1 battery on each gun position and repeated the TOT 15 minutes later. No further reports of shelling were received from that vicinity.

Plans were made to employ Corps Artillery on the city of AACHEN in the event of a refusal to surrender by the Germans. These plans were made in conjunction with the IX Tactical Air Command and 1st Infantry Division Artillery.

Antiaircraft Artillery: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn (SP) expended 3 rounds of 3" HE, AP and 38 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, and knocked out 15 enemy strong points in a building. Also expended 72 rounds of 3" indirect, harassing fire. The 635th TD Bn (T) expended 22 rounds of 3" AP and 6 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, neutralizing 1 enemy pillbox. Expended 555 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire,

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and also fired 14 general support and 8 interdiction missions. The 899th TD Bn (SP) expended 199 rounds of 3" HE on interdiction and harassing missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 330.

11 OCTOBER 1944

The 24 hour surrender ultimatum issued to the German forces of AACHEN (K-8443) having expired without any reply from the enemy, Corps troops, supported by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command, started the systematic reduction of the beleagured city. Corps Artillery fired 169 tons on AACHEN and Fighter-Bombers dropped 300 tons of bombs on the city.

Ground troops consolidated positions in the AACHEN sector and repelled all enemy counter thrusts as the Germans continued their active defense tactics and launched numerous counter-attacks. Gains were made to the southeast in the GERMETER (F-0233) - VOSSENACK (F-0332) area against stiff opposition. Elsewhere in the Corps zone contact was maintained with the enemy by patrolling.

Enemy resistance in the HAAREN (K-8645) - VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) area was stubborn throughout the period with house to house fighting taking place in HAAREN. At 1800 an enemy counter-attack, preceded by a heavy artillery preparation and supported by mortar and direct tank fire, including some smoke shells, was placed on VERLAUTENHEIDE. The attacks were broken up by our artillery fire and no ground was lost. Enemy resistance in GERMETER continued, but elements of the 39th Infantry crossed the highway north of the town and reached F-044336, north of VOSSENACK. South of GERMETER heavy enemy automatic weapon and mortar fire was encountered along the GERMETER - LAMMERSDORF (K-9726) Road. Enemy patrols were active in the area between LAMMERSDORF and MONSCHAU (K-9418).

Fighter-Bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command supported the Corps with 8 groups of P-47s, four of which bombed AACHEN, while three groups provided close support for the 1st Division, and 1 group provided close support for the 9th Division. These P-47s also provided information on enemy activity in front of the Corps.

9th Infantry Division: Both the 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments attacked at 0830. Against strong enemy resistance which lasted throughout the period the 39th Infantry succeeded in advancing east and crossed the highway north of GERMETER against heavy artillery and mortar fire, especially in the 1st Battalion sector. The 60th Infantry repelled two counter-attacks and made limited advances. The 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry also attacked and met heavy resistance.

3rd Armored Division: Only patrol activity was conducted as the Division continued the defense of its area in the center of the Corps zone.

1st Infantry Division: The 18th Infantry consolidated positions and prepared defenses. When the surrender ultimatum expired during the morning, Division Artillery joined in the attack on the city and supported 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry with 8 TOT missions from 10 battalions during a counter-attack at 1600. Mopping up operations were continued in HAAREN. Elements of the 26th Infantry advanced slightly on AACHEN from the northeast. The remainder of the front maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

4th Cavalry Group: Defended the line: MONSCHAU to RJ in the vicinity of K-9932, and maintained contact with the 102nd Cavalry Group (V Corps) to the south.

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11 October

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9th Infantry Division

During the night the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, was continually harassed by mortar and artillery fire, and by patrols, one of which infiltrated across the road joining the 1st and 3rd Battalion of the 60th Infantry. At about 0730 hours an enemy attack in force was made against Company B. This was successfully held off, but the 3rd Battalion, less Company I, was diverted from its mission of attacking toward the objective of the high ground and CR in the vicinity of F-003313, and moved down the main road to reinforce the 1st Battalion. At 1300 hours the 3rd Battalion arrived in position to the left of the 1st Battalion and immediately became engaged with the enemy to the southeast and southwest. Both battalions held their positions the rest of the day against strong enemy pressure.

The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, with the mission of attacking south toward the CR and high ground in the vicinity of F-003313, jumped off at 1050 hours with two tanks supporting each leading company. Stiff resistance from light and heavy weapons was encountered in addition to pillboxes, mines, and wire obstacles. All but one tank became mired down, and the Battalion succeeded in advancing only as far as the line F-000320 - F-004319. Company I remained at the road junction in the vicinity of RICHELSKOUL throughout the period. The Regiment captured 76 prisoners of war during the day.

The 39th Infantry continued the attack to the east ad 0830 hours. The 1st Battalion, holding a line east of the road at GERMETER, sent A Company with tanks down the road leading south. Company A reached the RJ at F-019324 where it engaged in a heavy fire fight. One tank was lost and the Company pulled back to the road junction at F-022328. The Company then moved east toward VOSSENACK, advancing about 200 yards against heavy fire to the vicinity of F-024327, where two more tanks were lost. The remainder of the Battalion received heavy fire all day.

After receiving exceptionally heavy shelling at the jump off, the 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry, crossed the road and proceeded with only intermittent artillery fire by way of the draw north of VOSSENACK to positions facing generally north along the Line: F-035335 - F-040335 - F-046337. No further advance was made in order to maintain contact with the 2nd Battalion on the left (west) flank. Meanwhile, the 2nd Battalion extended its lines across the road east with Company F setting up a road block at F-028340 and G Company moving into position on the left flank. In general the line of the 2nd Battalion, also facing north, extended from F-018340 to the road at F-028340, and thence southeast to F-035335, tying in with the 3rd Battalion. Throughout the day the 2nd Battalion resisted strong enemy pressure from the north, consisting of heavy machine gun and small arms fire.

In the zone of the 47th Infantry on the left flank of the Division, Company F moved from reserve position at K-998404 to the left flank of Company E to join in the attack against the RJ at F-021384. The plan of attack was to seize the road junction, leave a platoon there, and clear the road to the north to company G at F-0140. G Company was to stage a demonstration with small arms, mortars and machine guns at 0830 hours, while artillery fired on the objective at F-021384. The demonstration by Company G drew heavy artillery and mortar fire. At 1000 hours Companies E and F attacked and were immediately stopped by intense rifle, and machine gun fire from the left flank and the ridge to the front. No further advance was made. It was learned that

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The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, with the mission of attacking south toward the CR and high ground in the vicinity of F-003313, jumped off at 1050 hours with two tanks supporting each leading company. Stiff resistance from light and heavy weapons was encountered in addition to pillboxes, mines, and wire obstacles. All but one tank became mired down, and the Battalion succeeded in advancing only as far as the line F-000320 - F-004319. Company I remained at the road junction in the vicinity of RICHELSKOUL throughout the period. The Regiment captured 76 prisoners of war during the day.

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In the zone of the 48th Infantry on the left flank of the Division, Company F moved from reserve position at K-998404 to the left flank of Company E to join in the attack against the RJ at F-021384. The plan of attack was to seize the road junction, leave a platoon there, and clear the road to the north to company G at F-0140. G Company was to stage a demonstration with small arms, mortars and machine guns at 0830 hours, while artillery fired on the objective at F-021384. The demonstration by Company G drew heavy artillery and mortar fire. At 1000 hours Companies E and F attacked and were immediately stopped by intense rifle, and machine gun fire from the left flank and the ridge to the front. No further advance was made. It was learned that

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seven well dug-in and camouflaged machine guns, wired and protected by rifle and automatic pistol fire were holding up the advance. At 1400 hours Company F was pulled back and moved to the right flank of E Company with the object offlanking enemy resistance. Company F was unable to accomplishe its mission and at dark was forced to dig in at a position generally abreast of Company E. The line held by both companies at the end of the period extended from F-007380 to F-013383.

1st Infantry Division

The 18th Infantry consolidated positions and prepared defenses of positions to the east and northeast of AACHEN. When the surrender ultimatum to the city expired during the morning without a reply having been received, Division Artillery joined with 30th Division and VII Corps artillery in shelling the city as bombers of the IX TAC also pounded AACHEN. Mopping up operations continued in HAAREN and at 0815 all enemy resistance had been cleaned out of the town. During the morning a number of pillboxes ran up the white flag.

At 1730 the 1st Battalion reported that B company was being counter-attacked by tanks and infantry. By 1800 Companies A, B, C, and I were engaged with enemy forces, and the attack was still in progress at 1920 hours. Division artillery was effectively employed in finally repelling the attack about 2000 hours and all positions were held without the loss of ground.

While the 16th Infantry maintained defensive positions and light contact with the enemy by patrolling on the right flank of the Division zone, the 26th Infantry continued to clean up scattered enemy resistance in area south of the railroad, in the vicinity of ROTHE ERDE (K-8743). Patrols started to probe forward after the bombing and artillery TOT, preparatory to an anticipated infantry assault on AACHEN in the morning. In the afternoon the 1106th Engineer Combat Group attacked and captured HILL 203, north of STEINBRUCK at K-837405 at 1630 hours. During the day B Company, 237th Engineers destroyed 10 pillboxes.

Other Units

There was no change in the mission or disposition of any units of the 3rd Armored Division during the period as defensive positions were held and light contact maintained with the enemy by patrolling. Likewise, in defense of the MONSCHAU - K-9932 area the 4th Cavalry Group carried out routine patrolling without incident.

Artillery

1st Division: Worked in close support with fighter-bombers groups of the IX TAC throughout the period to give AACHEN a heavy pounding. Targets were marked for 4 fighter-bomber groups during the afternoon, and the Div Arty fired 63 missions on the city. A heavy concentration was fired on an enemy counter-attack against the 3rd Bn, 18th Inf. At one time 10 Bns (2 light Bns from the 30th Div Arty; 1-155 Gun Bn from XIX Corps Arty; 7th FA Bn (105 H), 32nd FA Bn (105 H), and the 5th FA Bn (155 H) of the 1st Div Arty; and 957th FA Bn (155 H), 183rd FA Bn (155 H), and 980th FA Bn (155 G) of the VII Corps Arty) were massed in a "serenade" on the enemy infantry. The attack was successfully repulsed. Other missions fired were 50 harassing, 33 vehicle, 18 tank, 7 morter and machine gun, and 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6778.

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9th Division: Was extremely active in support of the Division attack. A 60th FA Bn Air OP picked up an enemy flak tower during friendly dive bombing mission and fire was adjusted on the tower with good effect. The 1st Bn of the 60th Inf was counter-attacked on its left flank while at the same time the enemy on the right flank were yielding ground rapidly. Div Arty fired on both enemy groups with good effect. 80 prisoners were taken as a result of the action. The following additional missions were fired during the period: 126 close support, 47 counterbattery (many were repeats on well dug-in batteries), 38 mortar and machine gun, 21 preparation, 18 harassing, and 4 destruction. Targets were also marked for dive bombers by Div Arty. Total rounds fired for the period were 7429.

3rd Armored Division: Simulated a 6 gun battery in the vicinity of MAUSBACH (K-9741) by setting off explosives coordinated with the night fire missions. In spite of the proximity of German observers no counterbattery fire resulted. Missions fired during the period were 17 infantry, 17 vehicle, 16 enemy batteries, 12 harassing, 9 OP, 8 interdiction, 6 registration, 5 mortar, 3 CP, and 1 factory, a total of 2316 rounds were expended.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired the following missions: 18 interdiction, 12 direct support, and 8 harassing, expending 726 rounds.

Corps: Joined 1st Div Arty and IX TAC in pounding AACHEN. A total of 67 destruction missions were fired on the city. Other missions were 50 interdiction, 18 counterbattery, 12 registration, 12 preparation, 4 infantry, and 1 calibration (980th FA Bn). Total rounds expended were: 2371.

A total of 169 tons of ammunition was fired into the city of AACHEN during the afternoon.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn expended 45 rounds of 3" HE direct fire and 96 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire, 635th TD Bn fired 33 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, 220 rounds 3" HE indirect, interdiction and harassing fire, 703rd TD Bn expended 124 rounds of 3" HE, and 405 rounds of 90mm indirect fire on targets of opportunity in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647); 899th TD Bn expended 182 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 330.

12 OCTOBER 1944

AACHEN (K-8443) continued to be blasted by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command and artillery as infantrymen and supporting arms closed in slightly on the beleagured city from the northeast. Mopping up operations were conducted in HAAREN (K-8645) and south of HILL 231 (K-8646). Corps troops withdrew slightly from the vicinity of GERMETER (F-0233) in the east to clean out an enemy infiltration on the left (north) flank. Other units maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

Patrols from the 26th Infantry met only moderate resistance during their advance through the factory district in northeastern AACHEN while enemy activity in the HAAREN - VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) area was confined to heavy artillery fire and strong patrolling of our front lines during the period. In the vicinity

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of STOLBERG (K-9342) enemy were seen preparing defensive positions, and more minefields were reported east of STOLBERG. At 0800 hours the positions of the 39th Infantry, 1000 yards north of GERMETER, were counter-attacked by two companies of infantry, supported by observed fire from self-propelled guns, mortars, and artillery. Heavy fighting took place northwest of GERMETER. South of that town the enemy, supported by heavy machine gun and mortar fire, held stubbornly to the line of pillbox fortifications running north from STECKENBORN (F-0226). In the LAMMERSDORF (K-9726) - MONSCHAU (K-9418) area only light enemy patrolling was reported.

Continuing the plan to destroy AACHEN, five groups of P-47's from the IX TAC bombed the city during the day, raining several hundred tons of explosives on AACHEN. In addition to bombing missions on AACHEN a group of fighter-bombers supported the 1st Infantry Division and another the 9th Infantry Division.

9th Infantry Division: The 60th Infantry attacked at 1000, but was halted at the LD by heavy small arms and mortar fire. Little progress was made against stiff resistance, composed of all types artillery. An enemy counter-attack was smashed late in the afternoon.

The 39th Infantry was heavily engaged all day, with the enemy infiltrating on the rear left (north) flank early in the morning, which prevented the scheduled attacked being launched at 0930. The 3rd Battalion was moved to the west to assist in mopping up the infiltration when enemy pressure increased. Very heavy small arms, mortar, machine gun and artillery fire was encountered and consolidation of positions continued until the close of the period. The 47th Infantry attacked with the 2nd Battalion which encountered extremely stubborn opposition, and was withdrawn to the vicinity of K-9939 as a Division Reserve.

3rd Armored Division: Defense of the Division zone was continued and patrols maintained contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to consolidate and improve positions. HAAREN and the area south of HILL 231 were mopped up by the 18th Infantry. The 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, attacked west and moved into the factory area on the northeastern part of AACHEN. The 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, moved from reserve to positions southeast of AACHEN. The 16th Infantry held defensive positions and remaining units continued pressure against AACHEN.

4th Cavalry Group: Defended the line from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to K-9938, maintaining contact with elements of the V Corps (102nd Cavalry Group) on the right (south).

9th Infantry Division

Following a 10 minute artillery preparation the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, attacked south to take the road center in the vicinity of F-003313, while the 1st and 3rd Battalions held in place. The attack was launched at 1030 but stopped at the line of departure by heavy small arms and mortar fire. The Battalion was then attacked by a strong enemy force which closed in with automatic weapons. This attack was repulsed with some loss and the lines restored. In the 1st and 3rd Battalion areas, enemy groups infiltrated across the road north of Company I. Infiltrations also occured to the south and southwest, and throughout the day numerous attacks were launched against our positions by the enemy, but all were repulsed. Enemy artillery and mortar fire was

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heavy along all sectors of the Regimental front.

Resumption of the attack east in the VOSSENACK (F-0332) area was suspended by the 39th Infantry because of the counter-attack against the 2nd Battalion which succeeded in infiltrating enemy forces around the left flank. Attacking with automatic weapons and heavy mortars, the enemy pushed Company G back almost to the secondary road running west from GERMETER where the Company regrouped and resisted further advances by the enemy. The infiltration around the left (west) flank cut the eastwest road at various points during the morning and early afternoon. The enemy also penetrated the left flank of Company F at the road block at F-028340 between GERMETER and HURTGEN, and threatened to isolate the road block. The road block was held, however, and the Company reinforced late in the afternoon by Company E.

To restore the left flank and drive the enemy from behind our positions, Company B and two platoons of C Company moved west and then attacked along the north side of the draw. Positions facing north on the left of Company G were reached. Companies I and K moved from the 3rd Battalion positions north of VOSSENACK back across the GERMETER Highway and took up positions to plug the gap between Companies F and G, prepared to sweep GERMETER clear of enemy at first light.

Company I remained on the right of Company E, and Company A and the remainder of C Company remained in previous positions on the east side of the GERMETER road. During the day these 1st Battalion positions received considerable small arms fire from the east. The 3rd Battalion received large calibre mortar fire in the valley north of VOSSENACK, and the GERMETER road was heavily interdicted with enemy artillery fire.

On the left flank of the Division the 47th Infantry held defensive positions and resumed the drive toward the RJ at F-021384 with Companies E and F. In an effort to envelope enemy positions from the south by a wide flanking movement on the right (south) flank, Company F moved out at 1000 hours and reached the vicinity of F-009378, where it was held up by heavy machine gun and mortar fire along with some artillery. At 1525 both attacking companies were ordered to disengage and assemble in the vicinity of F-003385. This move was successfully accomplished by 1840 hours. Reinforcements and a provisional staff were supplied and this group became the Reserve.

1st Infantry Division

Artillery fire was effectively employed to halt 10 tanks moving from the direction of WEIDEN (K-8948) toward Company B, 18th Infantry, at 0843. At 0830 the Regiment was ordered to clean out the wouthwestern slope of RAVELS B., northwest of HAAREN, and work southwest of HAAREN to contact the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, as soon as that unit reached the factory area of AACHEN, to insure its front. During the day the area south of HILL 231 (K-864466) and HAAREN were mopped up. Companies B, L, and I moved slightly north toward WURSELEN (K-8748) and contact with elements of the 30th Infantry Division pushing south. At the close of the period there still remained a gap of several kilometers between the 30th and 1st Division leading elements.

At 1050 the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry moved out to clear the factory district of AACHEN, on the northeastern edge of the city, and encountered only moderate resistance. By 1410 Company K was at K-853443 and Company I had advanced

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to K-859448. Company C was released from the Reserve, relieved L Company at 1525, and closed in on the 3rd Battalion by 1910. After the 3rd Battalion had progressed to the junction of the railroad tracks and the road to BRAND (K-8940), the 2nd Battalion moved north to eliminate enemy resistance in the eastern suburbs of AACHEN. The 1st Battalion, less Company C, remained in Reserve.

Active patrols maintained contact with the enemy as the 16th Infantry continued to hold its defensive positions on the right of the Division zone. On the left of the zone, southwest of AACHEN, 1106th Engineer Combat Group held similiar positions and maintained an outpost of platoon strength on HILL 203 (K-837405), north of STEINBRUCK.

3rd Armored Division

During the day the Division continued to defend its sector. The period was a quiet one. In the zone of Combat Command Boudinot, the 1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, replaced the 2nd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, in the line at 1620, and the 3rd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment replaced the 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment. This latter unit closed in a rear assembly position at 2225 hours. Both Combat Commands maintained normal patrol activity. Enemy activity consisted of intermittent artillery and mortar fire, and routine patrolling.

4th Cavalry Group

Both the 4th and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons continued to defend and patrol their respective areas without incident. In the zone of the 759th Light Tank Battalion enemy elements infiltrated on both flanks of the position of Company A, 297th Engineer Combat Battalion, in the vicinity of K-997313, but were driven out and the line secured with no change. Mortar and artillery fire was used with good effect to keep the enemy inactive. Meanwhile, the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion provided defense of the ROTGEN (K-9128) - RJ (K-940264) area, and remained as a mobile reserve.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 32 missions in preparation for the attack of the 26th Infantry. Other missions fired during the period were 69 harassing, 19 vehicle, 4 machine gun and mortar, 13 tank, 11 counterbattery, 9 counter-attack, and 28 miscellaneous (Cps, OPs, registrations, etc.). In addition, several targets were marked in the AACHEN and ESCHWEILER areas for fighter-bombers. Rounds expended: 4397.

9th Division: Supported the attack with 144 close support, 36 counterbattery, (9 by Air OP, 1 by FO), 25 mortar and machine gun, 21 harassing, 8 preparation, 5 tank, and 1 pillbox, expending a total of 8175 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired following missions: 14 enemy btry, 11 harassing, 8 infantry, 7 interdiction, 4 vehicle, 2 smoke, 1 factory, and 13 miscellaneous, expending 2570 rounds.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 18 interdiction, 12 mortar, 9 infantry, 8 strong point, 5 harassing, 3 counterbattery, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1551.

Corps: Continued destruction missions of AACHEN with 155mm, 8-inch, and 240mm howitzers, expending 741 rounds. Fired 7 missions reinforcing the preparation missions of the 1st Div. Other missions included 52 interdiction.

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and harassing, 26 counterbattery, 7 registration, 5 infantry, 2 strong points, and 1 telephone exchange. Rounds expended: 1890.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 9 rounds of 3" AP and 15 rounds of 3" HE direct fire in support of advancing infantry in addition to 96 rounds of 3" indirect harassing fire. The 635th TD Bn fired 314 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire, 4 registration, 8 interdiction, and 3 general support missions. 703rd TD Bn fired 108 rounds of 3" HE, and 164 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of WEISWEILER (F-0048), ESCHWEILER (K-9647), ROHE (K-9448), ST. JORIS (K-9249), HEHLRATH (K-9449) and DURWISS (K-9749). The 899th TD Bn expended 148 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 160.

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While the aerial and artillery bombardment of AACHEN (K-8443) continued, Corps troops entered the eastern and northern edges of the besieged city. Slight gains to the south were made in the GERMETER (F-0233) area and positions were improved and consolidated. Elsewhere on the Corps front patrol contact with the enemy and defensive positions were maintained. Troops of the 30th Division driving south to make contact with the 1st Division made little progress and northeast of AACHEN a gap more than a mile wide remained.

Heavy fighting characterized as "from attic to attic and from sewer to sewer", took place in northeastern AACHEN during the period as intense enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire was met from houses and factory buildings. In the HAAREN (K-8645) - VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) area the enemy patrolled vigorously and heavy artillery and mortar fire fell on our forward elements throughout the period. In the STOLBERG (K-9342) - SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) area only intermittant artillery fire was reported. North of GERMETER enemy pressure from the north against the 39th Infantry continued from the Wegelein Regiment of the 275th Infantry Division and heavy artillery fire was received along the front. South of GERMETER the 60th Infantry continued to meet strong resistance from enemy occupied pillboxes, supported by mortars and artillery.

The 304th Panzer Grenadier Regiment of the 2nd Pz Division was identified, and the whole Division was believed to have moved into the zone opposite the 18th Infantry. Of some 300 civilians processed by the 26th Infantry, 8 proved to be German soldiers.

Close support by one group each was provided for the 1st and 9th Infantry Divisions by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command, and results with both units were reported as excellent. Meanwhile two groups of fighter-bombers carried out raids on AACHEN and medium bombers hit LANGERWEHE (F-0347). Results of these missions were also reported as excellent.

9th Infantry Division: Slight gains were made in the 60th Infantry sector on the right, and the lines of the 39th Infantry were partially restored and the threat to the Regiment's communication system removed. The 47th Infantry held defensive positions on the left flank with the exception of the 2nd Battalion which moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of K-9941. Several small counter-attacks were repulsed during the day.

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3rd Armored Division: Continued patrol activity on its front with only light contact with the enemy. 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, moved into the zone of the 9th Infantry Division.

1st Infantry Division: Objectives on the northern and eastern edges of AACHEN were reached by the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 26th Infantry. Both battalions engaged in house to house fighting and made small gains against moderate resistance. Remainder of the Division maintained defensive positions and contact with the enemy by patrolling.

4th Cavalry Group: Elements made a diversionary attack which assisted the advance of the 60th Infantry, 9th Division. Defense of the line: MONSCHAU (K-9418) - K-990320 was continued and contact maintained with V Corps on the right (south).

9th Infantry Division

At 0930 hours the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry attacked against the objective (CR south of TODTEN-BRUCH) in the vicinity of F-003313, and moved slowly with prepared mortar and artillery concentrations against stiff resistance in its southern push during the morning. Gradually the enemy was forced to give ground, and aided by a diversionary attack by the 4th Cavalry Group, progress became more rapid. By 1400 hours Company F was on the objective and shortly afterward Company E arrived. A defensive line was organized along the road from K-998313 to F-003313 with Company G in reserve to counter any threat to the flanks. The remainder of the Regiment made no material change in positions, being heavily engaged throughout the day from opposition from pillboxes, and small arms, machine gun, mortar and artillery fire. The 1st Battalion made no progress, while the 3rd Battalion remained in defensive positions and did not attack, but committed elements along the main highway, when it was threatened by a counter-attack. During the day 105 prisoners were captured by the 60th Infantry.

In the center of the Division zone the 39th Infantry continued to clear out enemy groups which had infiltrated into its positions the previous day and to restore the front line to the north. When operations commenced at daylight (0630), enemy pressure from the north increased and during the period several counter-attacks were hurled back. Efforts to restore positions lost by F and G Companies and to close the gap in the line were strongly resisted by these active defense tactics of the Germans. Both flanks were attacked and also the road block on the main GERMETER Road. At 1715 hours the 39th Infantry attacked and succeeded in closing the gap and partially restoring the front line to the north. Company I was brought up from the right flank and took up a position on the left where the enemy offered the greatest threat to the communications line.

On the left flank the 47th Infantry held defensive positions. At 1500 hours the Division Reserve (Companies E and F, 47th Infantry, one platoon of mortars, another of machine guns, a medium tank company, and a provisional battalion staff) moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-005341 to support the 60th Infantry. The 1st Battalion of the 36th Armored Infantry Regiment from the 3rd Armored Division moved into the Regimental sector at 1800 hours and assembled in the vicinity of K-9939 to reinforce the 47th Infantry in case of a counter-attack. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion held 8 road blocks between the 47th and 39th Infantry Regiments, along the road from F-010390 southwest to F-009342, and a platoon defensive position at F003378.

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1st Infantry Division

Both the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 26th Infantry jumped off at 0930 to complete cleaning out the factory district of AACHEN. The 3rd Battalion pushed east from the factory area and cleared buildings of enemy resistance in the apartment-house area while the 2nd Battalion attacked northeast toward the cemetery. Although this house to house fighting permitted only slow progress, both battalions made steady gains throughout the day and at the end of the period were still moving. Less Company C, the 1st Battalion remained in Reserve.

Using flame throwers the 18th Infantry cleaned up 3 pillboxes in the vicinity of K-862463 by midmorning. Defensive positions were further consolidated and improved and contact maintained with the enemy by active patrolling. On the right flank of the Division the 16th Infantry continued to hold its defensive positions and conducted active patrolling. On the opposite flank the 1106th Engineer Combat Group carried out a similiar mission.

3rd Armored Division

Active patrol contact was maintained with the enemy by Combat Commands Boudinot and Hickey as both held their same defensive line throughout the period. An infantry battalion and company of medium tanks from the Reserve was moved to the 9th Division zone, commencing at 1300. Enemy aircraft bombed and straffed the Division area at 1900 but only 2 casualties were caused by this attack.

4th Cavalry Group

Both the 4th and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons carried out routine patrolling with very light enemy contact. Some enemy outposts in the zone of the former were withdrawn while the latter squadron reported no change in the enemy lines. Enemy elements were active to the front of the 759th Light Tank Battalion, Company A, 297th Engineer Combat Battalion attached, and when a demonstration was launched to divert the enemy from the attack of the 60th Infantry, the immediate reaction was a heavy concentration of enemy artillery and mortar fire. Patrol contact was established with E Company of the 60th Infantry, just prior to dark, and a coordinated attack plan was formed with the infantry commander to clean out the area of enemy. The 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion continued its defensive mission in the ROTGEN (K-9128) - RJ (K-940264) area without incident.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 3 preparation missions in support of the 26th Infantry as it moved into AACHEN from the east, and also continued marking targets in the city for the Air Corps. Other missions were 30 harassing, 21 counterbattery, 18 personnel, 8 tank, 6 vehicle, 3 counterattack, and 21 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2353.

9th Division: Fired 14 preparation missions in support of various elements of the Division as they launched small scale attacks. The 981st FA Bn (155 G) marked a distant target for fighter-bombers with WP smoke and the aircraft picked up the target without difficulty. Other missions included 94 close support, 19 counterbattery, (43 sound, 4 FO, and 1 AOP), 24 harassing, 13 mortar and machine gun, 2 tank and 1 pillbox, a total expenditure of 2518 rounds.

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3rd Armored Division: Reported a need for an incendiary shell due to the lack of WP smoke in sufficient quanity for incendiary pruposes. At that time the Division artillery was conducting experiments with base ejection smoke shell M-84 filled with flame thrower mixture. The six rounds fired to date had the same ballistic characteristics as the regular smoke shell but none detonated. This was believed due to the fluid seeping into the fuze, and further experiments were planned.

The Division Artillery fired the following missions: 13 personnel, 12 harassing, 12 enemy battery, 5 vehicle, 5 registration, 2 factory, 1 tank, and 1 mortar. Rounds expended: 1087.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 12 interdiction, 7 infantry, 4 preparation, 3 counterbattery, 2 OP, 1 CP, 1 pillbox, and 1 registration. Rounds expended: 649.

Corps Artillery: Fired 25 interdiction, 23 counterbattery, 9 vehicle and personnel, 8 harassing, and 2 registration. The majority of the counter-battery missions were on enemy batteries firing into the zone of the XIX Corps. Of these missions 18 were observed firps, 11 adjusted by AOP, 3 by Arty R, and 4 by ground observation. Rounds expended: 876.

Antiaircraft: The 474th AAA AW Bn engaged 1 enemy aircraft at 1844 and it was probably destroyed. At 1835 the 116th AAA Gun Bn (90mm) attached to the 109th AAA Gp, engaged one enemy craft with .50 calibre machine guns but no claims were made. The 438th AAA AW Bn engaged a single enemy plane at 1845 with no claim. (Period ending 061300 hours).

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 392.

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Limited objective attacks were renewed by Corps units in the AACHEN (K-8443) and GEMETER (F-0233) zones with both meeting stiff resistance. Only slight gains were made. Northeast of AACHEN, the gap between the VII Corps and the XIX Corps still remained open.

Strong enemy resistance comprised chiefly of small arms and automatic weapons fire was encountered during the period from enemy barricaded in houses and cellars in the northeastern section of AACHEN while in the southwestern section of the city patrols probing the outskirts encountered only light small arms fire. Enemy patrols were active along the front from HAAREN (K-8645) to STOLBERG (K-9343), and heavy enemy artillery fire was placed on HAAREN and VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845). In the GEMETER area the enemy strongly defended pillbox fortifications on the high ground east and south of the town. However, the enemy defense was less agressive and only local counter-attacks, none of which penetrated our lines, were reported during the period.

By interrogation of prisoners taken during the week of 6-13 October, the 1st Infantry Division estimated the total number of enemy troops in the AACHEN pocket at not more than 2000. The extreme western section of the city along the MAASTRICHT (K-5453) Road to the region of SCHNEEBERG (ZWICKAU) (K-790444) was occupied by approximately 450 men. From the MAASTRICHT Road southeast to the railroad at K-8341 there were approximately 350 enemy; from the railroad to the TRIER-STRASSE were about 250, and from the TRIER-STRASSE to the outskirts of HAAREN were 150. Continuing north from HAAREN to about K-864477 were another 200. About 400 troops of the 404th Infantry Regiment were in the northern section of AACHEN, and while organized larger units were not in the center of the city, it was estimated that 100 enemy soldiers were guarding essential command posts and civilian bunkers and depots.

9th Infantry Division: The 60th Infantry, Companies E and F, 47th Infantry attached, attacked to the south making small gains against pillboxes, artillery, mortar, and small arms fire. The 39th Infantry advanced to the north against heavy resistance, straightened its lines and consolidated positions. The 47th Infantry, less Companies E and F, held defensive positions and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division: Continued patrol activity to its front and held defensive positions.

1st Infantry Division: The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 26th Infantry, continued the attack to the west into AACHEN, meeting stiff resistance from enemy pillboxes and engaged in house to house fighting. Remainder of the Division maintained contact with the enemy.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol right (south) flank of Corps, defending the line from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to(K-9932).

9th Infantry Division

An enemy counter-attacked in the sector held by E Company of the 60th Infantry at 0730 hours. The attack was repulsed, but the 2nd Battalion was disorganized, and the attacked scheduled for 0930 was delayed. At 1030 the attached units of the 2nd, Battalion, 47th Infantry, attacked southwest between the 1st and 2nd

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Battalions of the 60th Infantry, with the mission of clearing out enemy pillboxes and occupying the eastern part of the objective, vicinity of F-0033[illegible], the [illegible] south of TODTEM-BRUCH (F-0032). The 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, made rapid progress on the road, cleaned up 2 pillboxes and after a stiff fight got one company across the road to the south, and then repulsed a counter-attack at 1700 hours.

On the right, Company E of the 60th Infantry turned west and cleaned up 3 pillboxes, while Company G attacked south and crossed the road to its front at 0900 hours. Company L in the gap between the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, and 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, attacked a pillbox to its front at 1000 hours, and after several unsuccessful attempts to reduce it, surrounded the fortification and made preparations to destroy it by demolition. Other elements of the 3rd Battalion held positions defending the GERMETER - ROTH (F-0027) Road. Beginning at 1400 hours the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry attacked entrenched enemy on the high open ground on the south but without success. During the course of the day's operations the 60th Infantry took 209 prisoners.

Initially the 59th Infantry held in place. A small counter-attack in the center held by G and F Companies was broken up by a heavy artillery concentration. At 1500 hours Companies B and C attacked to the north to restore the line, supported by fire from K and L Companies. The enemy resisted with heavy small arms and mortar fire, but were forced to yield and the attackers succeeded in restoring the line. Companies K and L were pinched out and withdrew, assembling with Company I on the left flank in Regimental Reserve. The 47th Infantry and the 296th Engineer Combat Battalion continued to hold defensive positions on the left flank of the Division without change.

1st Infantry Division

At 0615 hours the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 26th Infantry renewed the attack to the west into AACHEN. The 2nd Battalion pushed north and east, and the 3rd Battalion south and east to secure a junction of the two units for a consolidated line. Progress was slow. The enemy's use of interconnecting cellars and of sewers necessitated that each house be cleared-out. At the close of the period the 2nd Battalion held the line: K-8755[illegible]37 - K-8[illegible] - K-8[illegible], and the 3rd Battalion: K-8[illegible]43 - K-8[illegible]32 - K-8[illegible]31. The 1st Battalion remained in reserve at K-8671[illegible].

The remainder of the Division carried out the defensive mission of holding positions and making contact with the enemy by patrolling.

3rd Armored Division

Defense of the 3rd Armored Division zone was carried out without incident. Both Combat Commands Boudinot and Hickey continued patrol activities with no change in disposition. There was no change in the Reserve. Enemy activity consisted of intermittent artillery and mortar fire throughout the period.

4th Cavalry Group

There was no change in either our lines or that of the enemy as units of the Group carried out their defensive mission and patrolled the right (south) flank of the Corps and maintained contact with the V Corps. Diversionary fires were fired by the 759th Light Tank Battalion to assist the infantry attack in the zone of the 9th Division to the north.

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Artillery

1st Division: 65 missions on enemy tanks and 20 missions on infantry. Other missions fired were 35 harassing, 12 counterbattery, 9 target marking (for fighter-bombers), 8 mortar, 4 registration, 1 propaganda, and 11 miscellaneous. Total number of rounds expended was 2323.

9th Division: Fired 18 preparation missions in support of infantry elements as they launched a small scale counter-attack to improve their positions. Several targets were successfully marked for fighter-bombers, some as close as 400 yards to friendly troops. Other missions included 54 close support, 13 counter-battery, 13 harassing, 12 interdiction, 6 mortar and machine gun, and 1 tank. Rounds expended: 4323.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 27 harassing (2 were TOT's), 11 registration, 5 enemy battery, 3 mortars, 3 preparation, 2 personnel, 1 vehicle, and 1 factory. Rounds expended: 1200.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 17 interdiction, 17 harassing, 2 counterbattery, 2 machine gun, 2 infantry, 2 registration, and 1 CP, expending 548 rounds.

Corps: Fired 61 missions during the period as follows: 21 counterbattery, 20 interdiction, 7 harassing, 7 registration, 6 preparation, 6 flak battery, 6 tank, 3 target marking, 1 infantry, 1 OP, 1 house, and 1 factory. Rounds expended: 1020. The 6 preparation missions were fired in support of the XIX Corps attack. Of the 21 counterbattery missions 12 were adjusted by Air OP and 6 by ground observation with the effect reported on the whole as unusually good.

The 188th FA Bn (155 H) fired a number of very effective missions during the period. Direct hits were scored on 2 tanks (2 separate missions), and SP gun, an AA gun, and a house containing an enemy OP.

Antiaircraft: The 109th AAA Gp reported the 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged 7 enemy aircraft in 5 raids between 1837 and 2218 hours, but no claims were made.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn fired 40 rounds of 3" HE direct fire and 96 rounds of 3" HE indirect. The 635th TD Bn expended 460 rounds of 3" HE indirect interdiction fire. The 703rd TD Bn fired 311 rounds of 3" HE and 114 rounds of 90mm HE indirect harassing fire. The 899th TD Bn expended 100 rounds of 3" HE indirect interdiction fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 538.

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A series of counter-attacks along the Corps front were all repulsed without loss of ground and positions consolidated. Air and artillery support were effectively employed in halting the enemy and his losses were heavy in carrying out his active defense practice. Fifteen enemy tanks were destroyed by the Corps.

At 1000, following a heavy artillery concentration, a battalion of enemy infantry from the 8th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, counter-attacked I, E, and G Companies of the 16th Infantry and G Company of the 18th Infantry. The infantry attack was followed by 10 enemy tanks which hit E and G Companies of the 16th

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Infantry at 1240 hours. Two of the enemy tanks were de[illegible]oyed by artillery fire, and the remainder retired to the north. A second enemy force, consisting of an infantry battalion from the 29th Pz Gr Regiment and supported by 8 tanks counter-attacked G and F Companies of the 18th Infantry at 1300 hours. These enemy tanks were heavily hit by our artillery and air and withdrew to the north.

A slight penetration was made in our line south of QUINX (K-8945), but the lost ground was regained by 1500. At 1400 the remnants of the 404th Infantry Regiment, estimated at battalion strength, and supported by 4 tanks and several self-propelled guns, attacked positions of the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, in the north-eastern section of AACHEN (K-8443). The enemy was driven off without gaining ground. At 2230 enemy infantry, supported by 5-10 tanks, effected a slight infiltration against the 16th Infantry, south of QUINX. At the close of the period this infiltration was being mopped up.

In the vicinity of GERMETER (F-0233), enemy resistance decreased during the period. Only small arms and automatic weapons fire were reported during the afternoon. Both of GERMETER the 60th Infantry encountered heavy artillery and small arms fire from pillboxes on the high ground east of the GERMETER-ROLLESBROICH (F-0027) Road.

Heavy artillery fire, estimated at 5000 rounds of which 4000 were 105mm, fell on positions of the 1st Division during the period with the heaviest concentration of fire preceeding the counter-attacks southeast of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845). Harassing artillery fire of 150mm calibre, was reported in the rear area of the Corps from 1400 to 1700 hours. In the STOLBERG (K-9343) - SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) area artillery fire was moderate, with 31 enemy gun positions reported. In the vicinity of GERMETER intermittent and harassing enemy artillery fire fell on the positions of the 39th Infantry, while the 60th Infantry encountered heavy artillery fire after crossing the GERMETER - ROLLESBROICH Road.

Total strength of enemy units, including immediately available reserves on Corps front, was estimated at 52,130. On the front of the 1st Division the enemy strength was placed at 6950 with 17,980 immediate reserves facing the 1st Infantry-3rd Armored Division (ESCHWEILER) sector. In the 9th Infantry Division zone the enemy front line strength was estimated at 5700 troops with 3500 immediate reserves. There were approximately 18,000 general reserve troops available to the enemy for use in the Corps zone.

Enemy units known to be committed at this time, some of which were at only a fraction of T/O strength were the 246th, 12th, 526th, 353rd, 347th, and 275th Infantry Divisions, 2nd, 116th, and 9th (Battle Group) Panzer Divisions, 3rd Panzer Grenadier, and the 1st SS Panzer Divisions. Several of these units were merely remnants of their former organizations and their ranks were composed of a conglomeration of miscellaneous units, including GAF Fortress, Fusellier, and Replacement Battalions. An estimated 60 to 75 enemy tanks were in the area on the left flank of the Corps.

9th Infantry Division: Consolidated positions and repulsed attacks in the zone of the 39th and 60th Infantry Regiments. The 2nd Battalions, 47th and 60th Infantry Regiments, reached their objectives and made contact with the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry.

3rd Armored Division: Routine patrol activity was conducted and defensive positions maintained throughout the period.

1st Infantry Division: A series of counter-attacks were repelled throughout the Division zone and heavy losses inflicted upon the enemy. House to house fighting continued as a small advance was made in the eastern edge of AACHEN (K8443).

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the right flank of the Corps, defended the line: MONSCHAU (K-9418) - K-9932, and maintained contact with the V Corps on our south.

9th Infantry Division

At 0730 the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, attached to the 60th Infantry,

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attacked to seize the high ground to the south and east. Good progress was made against light opposition and at 1400 hours final positions were reached where enemy fire from a pillbox stopped the advance. As this battalion was moving southeast the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, moved into the area in its rear, mopping up and destroying pillboxes. The line held by both battalions at the close of the period extended from the road bend at K-998313 to the high ground at F-007305, making contact with the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry. The situation and positions of the 1st Battalion remained unchanged, although considerable small arms, mortar and artillery fire was received throughout the day.

From positions along the GERMETER - ROTHSBROICH Road, the 3rd Battalion assaulted the pillbox which Company L had surrounded the night before. The attack commenced at 0800 against heavy enemy fire from the pillbox and mortar fire which the enemy from other positions laid on the bunker itself. By 1100 hours the pillbox was taken and completely destroyed. Company L then joined K Company in an attack to the east against heavy fire. By 1700 hours Company K reached a position 200 yards beyond the road (F-015308), where numerous pillboxes prevented further advance.

In the center of the Division zone the 39th Infantry consolidated defensive positions along the line previously occupied, tying in defensive fires and improving implacements. At 1700 hours the enemy attacked with his main effort against the position held by Company E. Enemy fire, consisting of small arms, machine guns, mortars, and self-propelled guns, was received all along the northern front. The attack was repulsed without loss of ground.

The 47th Infantry, less the 2nd Battalion, remained in defensive positions, protecting the left flank of the Division, and maintained light patrol contact with the enemy. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion continued to hold road blocks between the 47th and 39th Infantry Regiments.

1st Infantry Division

During the night the enemy infiltrated between the G Companies of the 18th and 16th Infantry Regiments. The enemy was engaged and by 0600 hours the situation was cleared up. In the afternoon the 18th Infantry assisted the 16th Infantry in repulsing several enemy counter-thrusts. No advance was made by the 18th Infantry to the north to make contact with elements of the XIX Corps to close the AACHEN gap, thereby isolating the city.

After cleaning up the enemy infiltration that occured during the night, the 16th Infantry received a severe counter-attack at approximately 1130 hours, the main effort of which was against the I and G Company positions. At 1300 the situation in I Company's sector was reported as critical with the enemy occupying the Company positions. Effective artillery fire was placed on tanks supporting the enemy infantry, and when friendly aircraft started taking a toll of these armored units the tanks were withdrawn with the result that by 1500 the combination of our infantry and artillery together with fighter-bombers had repulsed the attack. All positions were consolidated and the entire Regiment was alerted for a possible attempt of the enemy to reorganize and renew the attack.

The 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 26th Infantry attacked at daylight again to clean out the eastern outskirts of AACHEN. House to house fighting made the advance slow as the enemy continued his dogged resistance. A counter-attack against the 3rd Battalion caused the loss of several houses east of OBSERVATORY HILL (K-033444). The loss was temporary and further progress was made in AACHEN as the drive continued toward the west.

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15 October

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3rd Armored Division

Defensive positions were maintained and enemy contact made by patrols throughout the period. The 3rd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, less 1 company, and the 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, moved from the Division Reserve into the zone of the 1st Infantry Division, beginning at 1650 and completing the move at 1855. Both units assembled at K-904404. Company C, 23rd Armored Engineer Battalion, replaced E Company, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, on the road blocks at MAUSBACH (K-9741) at 1650 hours.

4th Cavalry Group

Except for an increase in enemy artillery fire in the sector of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron between the vicinity of ROLLESBROICH and south of BICKERATH (K-9724) there was little activity in the zone of the 4th Cavalry Group. Routine patrols reported little enemy movement observed during the period.

Artillery

1st Division: Division artillery was extremely active during the period due to the several enemy counter-attacks. Fired 255 missions as follows: 95 counter-attack, 60 tank, 37 personnel, 14 mortar and machine gun, 7 vehicle, 4 counter-battery, and 7 miscellaneous, expending a total of 8782 rounds.

9th Division: Fired 30 close support, 16 harassing, 10 counterbattery, 5 preparation, 3 mortar and machine gun, 1 interdiction, and 1 tank mission. Rounds expended: 943.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 14 enemy battery, 13 personnel, 11 harassing, 4 mortar and 3 registration missions. Of these missions 8 were in support of the 1st Division. Rounds expended: 814.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 13 interdiction, 4 infantry, 2 registration, and 1 machine gun missions, an expenditure of 414 rounds.

Corps: Fired 17 harassing, 10 counterbattery, 5 preparation, 3 mortar and machine gun, and 31 miscellaneous missions. Rounds expended: 943. A very successful artillery reconnaissance mission was conducted by Corps Artillery FDC. The target was an enemy battery and the mission was assigned to the 980th FA Bn (155 G). A number of enemy batteries were silenced, and 20 minutes later a battalion volley was fired to catch enemy personnel as they came out of their holes.

Antiaircraft: One catagory I claim was made by the 116th AAA Gun Bn out of 14 enemy planes engaged in 6 rades between 1843 and 0242 hours.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 333.

16 OCTOBER 1944

At 1645 hours contact was made between the 1st Division and the 30th Division (XIX Corps) northeast of AACHEN at (K-859469) thereby isolating the beleaguered German city of 165,000 normal population. In the eastern section of AACHEN very stubborn opposition was encountered as house to house fighting continued with our troops making a slow advance. The enemy continued his active defense and several counter-attacks were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy including at least 13 tanks.

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16 October

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Early in the period an estimated six enemy tanks infiltered into the position of Company G, 16th Infantry. The enemy attacked positions of the 16th Infantry south of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) at 0600 hours with two battalions from the 8th and 29th Panzer Grenadier Regiments, supported by an estimated 20 tanks. Slight penetrations were made into the positions of Company G and a pillbox in the Company I area was seized. After hand to hand fighting the enemy which moved against the 18th Infantry at QUINX (K-8945) was driven off without loss of ground.

In the eastern section of AACHEN small arms and automatic weapons fire was met and several self-propelled guns were encountered. Two concentrations of enemy infantry on the front of the 26th Infantry during the period were broken up by artillery fire.

Only scattered small arms fire was reported in the GEILENKIRCHEN (F-0233) sector. South of the town the 60th Infantry met small arms and automatic weapons fire from pillboxes. Elsewhere along the Corps front the enemy confined his activities to light patrolling.

9th Infantry Division: Captured two pillboxes and straightened lines, consolidating positions.

3rd Armored Division: Held defensive positions and conducted active patrolling.

1st Infantry Division: Repulsed numerous counter-attacks, supported by tanks, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy in both personnel and equipment; made contact with the 30th Division southeast of WURSELEN to complete the ring around AACHEN, and made slow advances in the eastern section of the beleagured city against stubborn resistance.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the right (south) flank of the Corps, defended the line MONSCHAU (K-9418) to K-9932, and maintained contact with the V Corps on our right.

9th Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry and a tank company, attached to the 60th Infantry attacked at 0930 hours to continue cleaning up pillboxes and other enemy points of resistance on the Divisions right flank. Although resistance from the machine guns and self-propelled artillery encountered was not strong, progress was slow because of the difficult terrain and the thickness of the dense forest and underbrush. With Company E advancing east and Company F advancing southeast all enemy resistance including two pillboxes, in the area was reduced by 1600 hours. The Battalion then moved north to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-009337, just west of the WEISSER WEH BACH.

The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry was ordered to take over the area cleaned out by the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry and organized defensive positions. The Battalion moved into this right flank sector in the late afternoon and by nightfall had completely organized it with defensive fires and outposts. The 1st Battalion withdrew from the line and assembled in the vicinity of F-003320 in Regimental Reserve at 1630 hours. The 3rd Battalion continued to hold its same defensive positions.

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16 October

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Units of the 39th Infantry remained in place and improved defensive organizations, patrolling to the front and flanks. Between 1500 and 1600 heavy small arms, and some mortar fire fell in the 2nd Battalion area and enemy activity was discovered in the draw to the front of Company G. Self-propelled artillery fire also fell during this time. Artillery concentrations were placed in this area, after which the enemy's aggressive actions ceased.

The 47th Infantry and the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion continued to defend the left flank of the Division and maintain patrol contact with the enemy without incident.

1st Infantry Division

The positions of the 18th Infantry, northeast of AACHEN, were attacked by enemy infantry-tank teams at 0600. Continued pressure against Company G, and G and I Companies of the 16th Infantry, resulted in the enemy gaining some of our forward positions during the early part of the day. The right platoon of G Company, 18th Infantry, was overrun by the enemy, but when the Regiment launched an attack to restore the line at 0715, the enemy was forced back and by 1915 hours the positions were completely restored.

At 1645 a patrol from Company F, 119th Infantry, 30th Division, XIX Corps, made contact with Company K, 18th Infantry, thus closing the ring that VII and XIX Corps units had drawn around AACHEN.

The 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry repulsed an enemy counter-attack at 0930 hours and continued its advance in the eastern section of AACHEN, pushing westward slowly, reducing enemy resistance in house to house fighting. Sharp street fighting developed as small enemy forces attempted to halt our advance by launching infantry counter-attacks, supported by tanks. All were beaten off with heavy enemy losses. By 1600 hours 11 German tanks had been knocked out. The 2nd Battalion also made progress in the city against the same sort of opposition. Company C moved up to the BURTSCHEID (K-8441) area on the southeastern edge of AACHEN proper, cleaning up small resistance groups, while the 1st Battalion, less Company C, remained in reserve.

Counter-attacks were also beaten back by the 16th Infantry along its defensive line from below QUINX to STOLBERG (K-9342). Company G engaged in a fire fight at 0420 hours which developed into a direct infantry attack at 0605 hours. By 0940 the enemy began falling back somewhat, but at 1105 were still engaged with Company G. With the exception of a pillbox at K-8944 in I Company's sector, all positions were consolidated by late afternoon.

3rd Armored Division

Defensive positions and active patrols were maintained by the 3rd Armored Division throughout the period with little activity on the part of the enemy other than routine patrols and some mortar and artillery fire on forward areas. Road blocks in MAUSBACH (K-9741) were defended by the Division Reserve.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Group continued its defensive mission on the right flank of the Corps and patrolled the area from MONSCHAU northeast to the vicinity of ROLLESBROICH, maintaining contact with adjacent friendly units.

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Artillery

1st Division: Fired 105 missions, 32 harassing, 20 personnel, 14 counter-attack, 7 tank, 7 vehicle, 6 preparation, 4 mortar and machine gun, and 16 miscellaneous, an expenditure of 2671 rounds.

9th Division: Fired 80 missions, 41 close support, 17 harassing, 9 counter-attack (6sound, 3 Air OP), 7 mortar and machine gun, 4 interdiction, and 2 preparation. Rounds expended: 1872.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 11 counterbattery, 10 registration, 8 personnel, (1 TOT in support of the 1st Inf Div), 5 mortar, 1 machine gun, and 1 OP missions. Rounds expended: 726.

4th Cavalry Group: The attached 87th Armd FA Bn fired 19 interdiction and 4 infantry missions, expending a total of 476 rounds.

Corps: Fired 44 missions (31 observed) as follows: 27 counterbattery, 5 personnel, 5 registration, 2 vehicle, 2 tank, 1 OP, 1 CP, and 1 harassing. Rounds expended 738.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 238.

17 OCTOBER 1944

During the day's operations the 1st and 30th (XIX Corps) Divisions made a firm junction north of AACHEN (K-8443) while other units of the 1st Divisions continued to make progress in cleaning out enemy resistance in the besieged city, meeting heavy resistance in the northern sector. Ten enemy pillboxes were knocked out in the vicinity of WOLFSFURTH (K-8546), north of AACHEN. On the right flank of the Corps, the zone of the 9th Division was extended south thereby lessening the large area that the 4th Cavalry Group was defending and patrolling.

In the VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) - QUINX (K-8945) sector, the 3rd Panzer Grenadier Division, which had suffered heavy casualties the previous day in its break-through attempt, took very little offensive action and restricted its activity almost entirely to patrolling. Small enemy groups barricaded in houses and cellars strongly resisted our advance toward the center of AACHEN. An increase in enemy patrolling was reported in the GRESSENICH (K-9842) area, but no aggressive action developed. To the south, several enemy pillboxes east of the GERMETER (F-0233) - ROLLESBROICH (F-0027) Road in the vicinity of F-0130 were reduced and resistance from pillbox defenses in the area decreased during the day.

9th Infantry Division: Extended its line to the south and improved positions.

3rd Armored Division: Continued patrol activity and regrouping of units.

1st Infantry Division: Consolidated positions, strengthened contact with 30th Division, reduced 10 pillboxes, and continued the advance into AACHEN against heavy resistance in the northern section of the city.

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17 October

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4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the right (south) flank of the Corps from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to the vicinity of ROLLESBROICH, and maintained contact with the V Corps on our right.

9th Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division the 60th Infantry remained in defensive positions, improving final protective lines, siting of weapons and field fortifications. Company A was attached to the 2nd Battalion and moved into positions on the right flank, southeast of FORST JAGERHAUS (K-9830), taking over road block (K-993308) and other positions (K-996311) to (K-987304) vacated by the 4th Cavalry Group when the Division sector was extended southward. At 1400 hours Company L attacked to the east following an artillery preparation, and with the support of accompanying tanks, advanced 150 yards beyond the road against heavy enemy fire. Final positions were reached and organized by 1700 hours. The 3rd Battalion held the line: F-019324 to F-020313 to F-012304.

The 39th Infantry in the center of the Division zone remained in defensive positions, strengthened defenses and maintained contact with the enemy by patrolling. Meanwhile the 47th Infantry continued to defend the left flank. Elements of the 2nd Battalion, comprising the Reserve returned from attachment to the 60th Infantry at 0925 hours and assembled in the vicinity of K-997406. The 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, reverted to 3rd Armored Division control.

The new boundary between the 9th Infantry Division and the 4th Cavalry Group on the right, was set as follows, effective at 1200: RJ at (F-013269), edge of lake at (K-991282) - along firebreak to junction at (K-953302) - RJ at (K-948302) all to the 9th Division.

1st Infantry Division

Starting at 0305 hours when L Company reduced a pillbox in the vicinity of K-857464, the 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry, captured 10 of these bunker fortifications during the day and took a number of prisoners in the area northeast of AACHEN. Contact was made with the 3rd and 2nd Battalions of the 119th Infantry, 30th Division, which had advanced south of the XIX Corps boundary to K-840460, and K-855470, respectively. Road blocks were also established at K-859470 and K-852-468 by Company L.

In the zone of the 16th Infantry, Company I regained the pillbox at K-834-446, and moved 100 yards into the woods beyond that point. Other units consolidated and strengthened positions and carried out defensive missions.

Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, continued to advance inside the city of AACHEN, cleaning out enemy resistance in bitter house to house, street fighting. Progress was slow as the enemy utilized to good advantage the many underground passages and heavy thick walled cellars of the Medieval buildings. The 2nd Battalion advanced to K-843435 - K-845430 - K-840424 - K-840420 and the 3rd Battalion to K-841444 - K-845439 - K-841436 - K-843435.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division continued to carry out a defensive mission throughout the period. In the sector of Combat Command Hickey, the 1st battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, relieved the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion in the line at 1900. There was no change in the zone of Combat Command Boudinot.

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4th Cavalry Group

There was no change in the location of units as the 4th Cavalry Group continued its defense of the MONSCHAU - ROLLESBROICH area, conducting active patrol contact with the enemy. A B-17 crashed at F-000245 at 1008 hours, and the plane was destroyed by artillery fire to keep it from falling into enemy hands.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 28 harassing, 21 infantry, 16 tank, 11 counterbattery, 9 counter-attack, 9 preparation, 6 mortar and machine gun, and 23 miscellaneous missions (registration, target marking, etc.). Rounds expended: 2586.

9th Division: Fired 42 close support, 17 counterbattery (13 sound, 4 Air OP), 15 harassing, 6 interdiction, 6 preparation, 4 mortar and machine gun, and 1 tank missions. Rounds expended: 1733.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 26 enemy batteries, 18 registrations, 11 harassing, 9 personnel, 9 vehicle, and 1 TOT on an enemy gun and vehicle assembly area. Rounds expended: 1195.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 18 interdiction, 4 infantry, 2 counterbattery, 1 harassing, and 1 material mission, expending 435 rounds.

Corps: Fired 41 missions during the period 15 of which were adjusted by Air OP and 10 by a forward observer. Good effect was reported on the observed missions with direct hits being scored in several cases. Other missions included 8 strong point, 5 preparation, 3 registration, 3 flak battery, 2 vehicle, 2 harassing and interdiction, 1 personnel, 1 tank and 1 OP. Rounds expended: 884.

The 13th FA Obsn Bn obtained an accurate flash location on a heavy enemy gun firing into the area of the 3rd Armd Div at 0100. 16 rounds of 240mm H (266th FA Bn) and 24 rounds of 155mm H (183rd FA Bn) were immediately fired on the location. The enemy gun fired no more during the night.

Antiaircraft: Between 0511 and 0514 the 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged 2 enemy planes at 10,000 feet and destroyed 1.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn destroyed 3 Mk VI, 6 Mk V Tanks, and a vehicle with direct fire, expending 409 rounds of 3" HE and 190 rounds of 3" APC. 102 rounds of 3" HE were fired on indirect, harassing missions. The703rd TD Bn fired 543 rounds of 3" HE and 582 rounds of 90mm HE on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647). The 635th TD Bn fired 366 rounds of 3" HE on indirect, harassing missions. The 899th TD Bn expended 100 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 107.

18 OCTOBER 1944

While units were advancing inside AACHEN (K-8443) against heavy reistance, the Germans attacked northeast of the beleagured city in an effort to break the ring around AACHEN and reopen the supply route, but all were unsuccessful and beaten off with heavy loss to the enemy. Artillery concentrations placed upon

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the enemy by the Corps were especially effective and accounted for a large percentage of his loss in personnel and equipment.

The first of the series of attacks came at approximately 0730 hours when a platoon of infantry supported by two self-propelled guns conducted a reconnaissance in force against positions of the 18th Infantry in the vicinity of K-865468. At 1000 two companies, supported by five self-propelled guns, attacked K and L Companies of the 18th Infantry at K-865468 and succeeded in overrunning two pillboxes. The enemy still held one pillbox at the close of the period although it was being contested by our troops as the fighting continued.

A battle group of the 1st SS Panzer Division (250-300 strong) was forced from OBSERVATORY HILL (K-833444) after offering bitter resistance. In the southern and central sections of AACHEN enemy opposition from barricaded positions was less tenacious and good progress was made by elements of the 26th Infantry.

Southwest of SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042), a company of enemy infantry, concentrated at F-0139, was dispersed by our mortar and artillery fire. Enemy patrols were active in the GRESSENICH (K-9842) zone of action throughout the day. Little enemy activity was encountered in the zone south of GERMETER (F-0233), where the enemy continued to hold pillbox defenses east of the GERMETER - ROLLESBROICH (F-0027) Road.

9th Infantry Division: Repulsed a light enemy attack and held all positions. The 294th Engineer Combat Battalion began progressively replacing the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion on the line: F-010390 - F-013340.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to hold defensive sector and to patrol. Task Force Hogan (3rd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, and 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment) was attached to the 1st Infantry Division.

1st Infantry Division: The 26th Infantry continued its advance in AACHEN, while north of the city the 16th and 18th Infantry supported by heavy artillery concentrations, repulsed enemy tank-infantry attempts to break through our lines. 2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry, 28th Division was attached to the Division at 0800 and moved up to the southern edge of AACHEN.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol the right (south) flank of the Corps from MOESCHAU (K-9416) to the vicinity of ROLLESBROICH (F-0027).

9th Infantry Division

On the right flank, the 60th Infantry continued its defensive role and improvement of positions. The 39th Infantry in the center of the Division zone carried out a similiar defensive mission. The 47th Infantry on the left flank alerted its 2nd Battalion at 1040 to send assistance to the Engineers at the road block at F-010390. However, by the time that infantry elements arrived the Engineers had the situation under control. The 1st Battalion sent reinforcements, including two tank destroyers, to K-978406 to cover the road between KREWINKEL (K-9841) and MAUSBACH (K-9741). The enemy attack which the 298th Engineers repulsed was supported by artillery and mortar fire. All reserves were committed and with liberal use of artillery the attack was halted by 1100. After 1205 there was no more enemy activity in the sector.

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1st Infantry Division

At 0730 tanks and infantry attacked the 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry, northeast of AACHEN. The attackers were thrown back from the Company I, position, but in the Company K zone fighting continued throughout the day with the enemy holding the pillbox at R-864467. A Company B platoon counter-attacked at 1730 hours to regain the Company K positions. Company L also attacked, one platoon moved north and west from positions at R-863463 with the mission of reinforcing a platoon at R-865468. At the close of the period this action was still being continued. Both German and American artillery were active throughout the period.

The 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, continued the attack at 0600 hours and the 2nd Battalion at 0730 to eliminate enemy resistance in AACHEN. Considerable progress was made and the major portion of the western section of the city was completely cleared. By 1110 the Regiment held the PALACE HOTEL and the KAISER HOUSE on OBSERVATORY HILL. All of the hill was held by the 3rd Battalion at 1115. Fighting consisted of hard to hard and house to house combat making progress slow. The 16th Infantry on the right flank of the Division carried out its defensive mission.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 47 missions on counter-attacking enemy infantry and tanks. At 1900 a TOT mission was fired on a wooded draw being used by the enemy as an avenue of approach. 12 battalions (7th, 32nd, 33rd, 105 howitzer battalions and the 9th and 987th battalions of 155 howitzers, all from the Division Artillery, and 2 battalions from the 3rd Armored Division and 5 more from the Corps Artillery) were massed on an area 500 yards square. The effectiveness of the mission was proved by the fact the Germans spent the remainder of the period evacuating the dead from the area. Other missions fired during the period were 30 harassing, 17 preparation, 17 personnel, 11 machine gun and mortar, 10 counterbattery, 8 road block, 2 strong point and 32 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3909.

9th Division: Fired 74 missions, 34 close support, 17 harassing, 7 mortar and machine gun, 6 interdiction, 6 counterbattery, and 4 preparation, expending a total of 1690 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 17 enemy battery, 15 harassing, 12 registration, 11 personnel, 6 interdiction, 3 factory, 2 OP, and 1 convoy missions. Rounds expended: 1733.

4th Cavalry Group: The 67th Armd FA Bn fired 19 interdiction, 4 infantry, 2 counterbattery, 1 machine gun, 1 OP and 1 registration missions. Rounds expended were 432.

Corps: Fired 18 missions on the enemy attack against the 1st Division. Results reported as excellent by the 1st Division. The 180th FA Bn fired a mission on enemy personnel in a house, and an observer reported seven direct hits were made. Other missions were 20 counterbattery (18 observed), 7 registration, 5 interdiction and harassing, 2 vehicle and personnel, and 2 strong point. Rounds expended were 715.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 105th Bn.

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18 October

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Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 52 rounds of 3" AP and 34 rounds of 3" HE on enemy strong points in AACHEN. The 635th TD Bn expended 235 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 1st Platoon of A Co, 703rd TD Bn was forced to cease firing during the night due to accurate enemy counterbattery from a single heavy gun. 703rd TD Bn expended a total of 140 rounds of 90mm indirect fire on harassing missions. The 899th TD Bn expended 204 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 332.

19 OCTOBER 1944

Considerable progress was made within the city of AACHEN (K-8443) by the Corps as the tempo of the house to house fighting increased. An enemy attack northeast of AACHEN was repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy from our artillery barrage.

At 0545 an estimated company of the 8th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (3rd Pz Gr Div), attacked positions of the 18th Infantry at K-865468 in an effort to retake a pillbox lost on the previous day. After being repulsed with heavy losses the enemy renewed the attack at 1500 when two Companies, supported by 5 tanks, and a heavy artillery and mortar preparation, attacked again. By 1800 the enemy was forced to withdraw and the sector was quiet at the end of the period.

Within AACHEN, enemy opposition was mopped up except in the western section. Most of the commanding ground at LOUSBERG (K-832445) was seized against only moderate resistance. In the GRESSENICH (K-9843) area enemy activity was confined to patrolling and artillery fire. Enemy forces occupying the pillbox defenses east of the GERMETER (F-0233) - BOLLESBROICH (K-9926) Road were inactive during the period. Considerable enemy activity was observed at WEIDEN (K-8847), VORWEIDEN (K-8948), and ST. JORIS (K-9249) throughout the day.

9th Infantry Division: Defended its positions and patrolled within the Division sector.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to hold its positions and patrolled the front.

1st Infantry Division: (2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry, 28th Division, and Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division, attached): Made good progress in AACHEN and repulsed all enemy attacks north of the city.

4th Cavlary Group: Continued its defensive and patrol mission on the right (south) flank of the Corps, and maintained contact with V Corps.

9th Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, the 60th Infantry continued its defensive role, patrolling and strengthening positions with wire and mines. At 1500 a demonstration of small arms, machine gun, mortar, and medium and heavy artillery fire, was conducted to determine the strength of the enemy and his locations. The usual mortar and artillery were received along the sector during the period. The 39th Infantry held its defensive lines without change and continued patrolling. At 1900 a demonstration was made with illuminating shells and WP fired from mortars to test the effectiveness of illuminating approaches to our positions. There was no enemy reaction. The 47th Infantry carried out its

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defensive mission on the left flank, patrolled to the front and to the west to the road blocks of the 3rd Armored Division.

1st Infantry Division

The first enemy attack against the 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry, northeast of AACHEN, was broken up by 1030 with heavy enemy losses, but in the afternoon the enemy renewed his efforts to take the pillbox held by Company K at K-865468. Between 1430 and 1500 enemy forces, estimated at two companies supported by tanks, made a determined effort to regain the bunker, following a heavy artillery and mortar preparation. The fight that ensued lasted for 2 1/2 hours. Both enemy and friendly artillery were extremely active throughout the action. Finally the enemy was forced to withdraw. His losses in personnel were heavy and at least two tanks were destroyed. By 1800 the sector was quiet.

Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division, attached to the 1st Division, moved into the zone of the 26th Infantry, on the northwestern edge of the city. At 0730 the Task Force attacked to capture the high ground in the vicinity of K-829447. The Task Force moved west on the right flank of the 26th Infantry and by 0830 was across the road at K-839449 - K-842445, moving forward on foot because of the softness of the ground. The Commanding ground of LOUSBERG (K-832445) was seized and cleared. An advance of about 1500 yards was made by Task Force Hogan during the day and at the close of the period the front line was: K-834443 - K-834446 - K-830446 - K-828448 and K-838449 - K-843458 and K-825453.

At 0800 the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 26th Infantry, renewed the attack inside AACHEN. The 2nd Battalion attacked to straighten its lines by advancing its front line to K-836440 - K-838430, and the 3rd Battalion to capture the high ground in the vicinity of K-836443. The high ground of SALVATOR (K-837442) was captured and buildings to the south cleaned out. The entire eastern section of the city was cleared during the day, despite stubborn house to house resistance. Although most of the ancient city had been reduced by previous artillery and aerial bombardment, the deep cellars and underground passages of the ruins continued to be utilized by the enemy defenders. At the close of the period the front line of the 26th Infantry was: K-833424 - K-834425 - K-833428 - K-832428 - K-834432 - K-834434 - K-836435 - K-836436 - K-838438 - K-837439 - K-835440 - K-835442 - K-834442 - K-833443.

On the left of the 26th Infantry zone, the 2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry (Task Force Hughes), also attached, moved up on the southern edge of AACHEN to hold in accordance with its defensive mission. During the day this Battalion was in position from K-833424 - K-836422 - K-832417 - K-828418 - K-825415. Most of the 243 prisoners captured by the Division were taken in AACHEN during the day.

The 16th Infantry continued to hold the defensive sector, east and southeast of AACHEN from VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) to STOLBERG (K-9342) while the 1106th Engineer Combat Group carried out a similar role on the southwestern side of AACHEN. Patrols were active to maintain contact with the enemy and adjacent friendly units.

Artillery

1st Division: When the enemy attacked the 18th Infantry at about 1430 hours the fires of the Division Artillery (7th, 32nd and 33rd FA Bns, (105 H) and the 5th, (155 H) and 240th FA Bn, (155 G) and 195th FA Bn, (8" H) were placed on an area 700 by 1200 yards which was being used by the enemy as an avenue of approach. The area

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was covered with repeated volleys for 20 minutes followed by harassing fires until 1600. The total number of missions fired during the period was 214 as follows: 57 counterpreparation, 45 counter-attack, 33 harassing, 15 personnel, 12 enemy gun, 9 registration, 6 tank, 5 vehicle, 5 mortar and machine gun, 4 area targets, and 24 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5266.

9th Division: Fired 29 close support, 17 harassing, 9 counterbattery, 7 interdiction, and 3 mortar and machine gun, a total expenditure of 1444 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired the following missions during the period: 20 harassing, 14 counterbattery, 7 personnel, 5 mortar, 5 registration, 3 machine gun, and 2 strong point. Rounds expended: 1185.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 18 interdiction, 2 mortar, 1 harassing, 1 infantry, and 1 strong point missions. The Battalion reported that in addition to enemy locations, other valuable information was received from Btry B, 285th FA Obsn Bn. Four counterbattery missions were fired during the period on locations furnished by this unit. Rounds expended: 838.

Corps: Supported the 1st Division during the enemy counter-attack. A total of 47 missions were fired with results reported as excellent. A forward observer adjusted the 188th FA Bn (155 H) on a CP in a house, obtaining 3 direct hits. Time fire was used when personnel began abandoning the building. The observer reported the fire as being very effective. Other missions fired by the Corps Artillery included 8 counterbattery, 3 harassing, 20 interdiction, 6 assembly area, 7 registration, 3 strong point, 1 vehicle and 1 pillbox. Total rounds expended: 539.

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged 7 enemy planes between 1837 and 1919 hours with two category I claims.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 20 rounds direct fire of 3" HE and 30 rounds APC, assisting the infantry in neutralizing 7 enemy pillboxes, and knocked out a Mk IV tank. The 635th TD Bn fired 303 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction and general support missions. The 703rd TD Bn fired 1100 rounds of 3" HE and 300 rounds of 90mm on interdiction missions, all of which was indirect fire. The 899th TD Bn expended 27 rounds of 3" HE on interdiction missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 254.

20 OCTOBER 1944

The advance in AACHEN (K-8443) continued throughout the day with our troops in control of three-quarters of the city. Very hard fighting occured at the TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL (K-830437) in northwestern AACHEN. After this strong point was reduced the enemy held only a small section in the western part of the city in addition to his defenses on the western outskirts. Other units continued to hold defensive positions and consolidate.

After being hurled back for five consecutive days in its attempt to break through the VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) - HAAREN (K-8645) sector the 3rd Panzer Grenadier Division made no aggressive movements during the period. In the city of AACHEN, the strongest resistance came from enemy forces barricaded behind the thick walls of the TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, and protected by self-propelled

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guns and anti-tank fire. During the afternoon this strong point fell and the high ground in the vicinity of LOUSBERG (K-832445) was completely cleared of all enemy. By 1900 the majority of enemy troops had been driven west of the railroad tracks on the western outskirts of AACHEN. Small scattered fire fights occurred during the period in the zone south of GERMETER (F-0233) where the enemy continued to hold pillbox defenses east of the GERMETER-ROLLESBROICH (K-9926) Road.

In the 1st Division zone of action, 850 rounds of artillery and 600 of mortar fire were fired by the enemy, with the heaviest concentration on the VERLAUTENHEIDE - RAVELSBERG Ridge. An Air OP observed 3 enemy batteries in action in the vicinity of LANGENDORF (K-9752). Elsewhere in the zone only intermittent enemy artillery fire was reported.

9th Infantry Division: Strengthened defensive positions, and patrolled to the front to maintain light contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to hold its defensive positions and patrol.

1st Infantry Division: (2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry, 28th Division, and Task Force Hogan 3rd Armored Division attached): Continued to clear enemy resistance in AACHEN. At end of the day the enemy held on a small portion in the western section of the city. Other units maintained pressure on the beleagured city. North and east of AACHEN defensive positions were consolidated.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol and defend the right (south) flank of the Corps from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to the vicinity of ROLLESBROICH, and maintained contact with the V Corps on our right.

9th Infantry Division

The 60th Infantry held defensive positions on the right flank. Installations were strengthened with wire and minefields, while contact with the enemy was maintained by patrols. At 1320 hours a fire demonstration was conducted with 8 inch mortars. Enemy retaliation was not as strong as on the previous day. There was very little small arms and less mortar fire. Meanwhile in the center of the Division zone and on the left flank, the 39th and 47th Infantry Regiments held their defensive sectors with no change in the lines and only light patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division

At 0730 hours the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 26th Infantry renewed the attack to clean AACHEN of enemy resistance. Good progress was made, although it was slow due to the stubborn enemy opposition consisting of small arms, machine gun, anti-tank, and mortar fire. Fighting still consisted of house to house combat and street action, necessitating a thorough search of each building. A steady advance was maintained and by 1400 enemy barricaded behind the thick walls of the TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL (K-830437) in the northwestern section of the city were routed. After the fall of this strong point the enemy held only a small portion of the western section of AACHEN in addition to his defenses in the western outskirts. At 1600 the northern portion of the 2nd Battalion had advanced to K-835439 - K-833439 - K-832438 - K-832436, and by 1900 almost all enemy remnants had been driven west of the railroad tracks in the western section. 250 prisoners were captured during the day by the 26th Infantry.

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The attack of the 26th Infantry was supported by Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division. During the day the Task Force completely cleaned the high ground in the vicinity of LOUSBERG (K-832445) of all enemy and moved to positions slightly northwest of LOUSBERG. The 1st Battalion remained in reserve.

Northeast of AACHEN, the 18th Infantry maintained close contact with the enemy on RAVELSBERG Ridge (K-865467) throughout the night. Company K restored its position on the hill at 0900 after taking anumber of prisoners. The Regimental sector was comparatively quiet throughout the day with only intermittent artillery fire from the enemy. Meanwhile the 16th Infantry maintained a defensive sector to the east of AACHEN without change in the lines and only patrol contact with the enemy. The 1106th Engineer Combat Group maintained strong pressure on AACHEN from the southwest and made contact with the 1104th Engineer Group (XIX Corps), and with the 2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry on the right.

3rd Armored Division

The Division continued to maintain its defensive sector. Combat Commands Boudinot and Hickey conducted patrol activity with no change in dispositions. The Division Reserve continued to maintain road blocks in the vicinity of MAUSBACH (K-9741). Task Force Hogan (3rd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment and 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment) remained attached to the 1st Division.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued to defend its sector in the north of the Group zone. Small enemy units, patrols and snipers in the vicinity of K-979254 and K-982252, were dispersed with assault guns and mortars. Light artillery and medium mortar fire were received in the vicinity of LAUTERSDORF (K-9726). In the southern sector the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued to carry out its defensive mission. Patrols drew enemy fire, and heavy artillery was received in the vicinity of MONSCHAU (K-9418). A house at K-952219 which was being used by enemy artillerymen, was engaged by the 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion and reduced with 11 direct hits.

In the central sector the 759th Light Tank Battalion outposted from FRINGSHUS (CR at K-940264) to CR (K-947238) to the west of ADERICH at (K-945226) and patrolled the area immediately in the rear of the front lines. The 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion provided defense of BOTGEN (K-9128) and reconnoitered for unsealed pillboxes to the rear of the front lines.

Artillery

1st Division: Called for a TOT on enemy infantry and tank assembly area at 1700. Five Battalions of 1st Div Arty (7th, 32nd, 33rd (105 H) and 5th and 957th (155 H), plus four battalions of Corps Arty (183rd, 188th (155 H), 240th (155 G), and 195th (8" H), plus one light battalion of the 3rd Armd Div were massed on the target. The results were reported as very good. A total of 154 missions were fired by the Div Arty as follows: 50 harassing, 16 target area, 13 personnel, 12 registration, 11 preparation, 9 counterbattery, 8 mortar, 1 tank, 1 pillbox, and 1 field train. Rounds expended: 2247.

9th Division: An observer of the 26th FA Bn adjusted the 195th FA Bn (8" H) on a supply building at 16000yards. A direct hit was made on the 20th round. The following missions were fired: 56 close support, 18 harassing, 15 interdiction, 1 mortar, and 1 pillbox. Rounds expended were 2432.

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20 October

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3rd Armored Division: Fired 87 missions -- 27 counterbattery, 25 harassing, 12 registration, 7 personnel, 4 assembly area, 3 interdiction, 2 CP, 2 OP, 2 vehicle, 2 mortar, and 2 horse drawn columns - an expenditure of 1381 rounds.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 19 interdiction, 4 infantry, 3 counterbattery, 2 registration, 1 harassing, 1 OP, and 1 strong point, missions, expending 693 rounds on 31 missions.

Corps: A forward observer of the 188th FA Bn (155 H) adjusted the Battalion on a 4 gun enemy battery. The guns were silenced and a large fire and explosion resulted. Another observer adjusted the 183rd FA (155 H) Battalion on a group of 100 enemy infantry, and the observer reported excellent results with the enemy dispersed. Other missions included: 57 counterbattery (38 observed), 31 interdiction, 5 personnel, 4 tank, 4 registration, 4 OP, 2 CP, and 1 vehicle, an expenditure of 1859 rounds.

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn engaged 5 enemy aircraft between 2145 and 2219 hours and a single enemy plane at 0215, destroying 2 and probably destroying a third. The 474th, 438th, and 440th AAA AW Bns, all fired predicted concentrations at unseen targets. The 103rd AAA AW Bn of the 1st Division, employed barrage fire effectively to drive off three separate groups of would be attacking enemy planes over AACHEN. No claims were made by the Battalion.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn fired 38 rounds of 3" APC and 159 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, knocking out 2 AT guns and a half-track; 96 rounds of 3" indirect fire on interdicition missions. The 635th TD Bn expended 439 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction and general support missions. Targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647) were engaged by the 703rd TD Bn using 90mm high explosive shells and 928 rounds were expended. The 899th TD Bn expended 50 rounds of 3" HE on indirect fire interdiction missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 266

21 OCTOBER 1944

The Corps captured AACHEN (K-8443), first major German city to fall to the allies, when Colonel Gerhard Wilck, commander of the city, surrendered the remaining garrison and installations to the 1st Infantry Division at 1205 hours. Over 1200 prisoners were surrendered with the city. From 11 October, when our surrender ultimatum to AACHEN expired, 4134 prisoners were captured by the 1st Infantry Division, most of whom were defenders of AACHEN. Elsewhere in the Corps zone units held defensive positions and conducted patrol activity.

Resistance was stubborn in AACHEN during the early morning, but opposition finally collapsed in the western outskirts except for isolated groups. At 1258 hours the official written surrender was received by the 26th Infantry and throughout the remainder of the period prisoners continued to be rounded up.

Enemy action in the HAAREN (K-8645) area was limited to light patrolling. At 1530, a small enemy force attacked at K-999424 (northwest of SCHEVENHUTTE), following a heavy mortar and artillery preparation and seized apillbox. Apparently satisfied with this demonstration the enemy abandoned the pillbox and withdrew under the cover of darkness. Scattered small arms fire was encountered from enemy forces manning pillbox defenses east of the GEILETER (F-0233) - ROLLESBROICH (K-9926) Road.

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9th Infantry Di ision: Defended positions and p. rolled in the Division zone.

3rd Armored Division: No change was made in the lines or disposition of troops as the Division carried out its defensive mission.

1st Infantry Division: (2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry, 28th Division, and Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division, attached): Continued the attack in AACHEN at 0700 and at 1205 the commander of the AACHEN Garrison surrendered. The rest of the period was spent in rounding up isolated groups of enemy. North and east of the city units held defensive positions.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol and defend the right (south) flank of the Corps from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to the vicinity of ROLLESBROICH, and maintained contact with the V Corps.

9th Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, the 60th Infantry continued to maintain defensive positions and strengthen fortifications. The installation of tactical wire and minefields was continued during the hours of darkness. During the morning the Command Post of the 1st Battalion was bombed by what was believed to have been an enemy P-47, but no casualties occurred. In the afternoon the 2nd Battalion extended its line to the southwest, Company E relieving Company C in the vicinity of K-988302 while Company C moved to an assembly area at K-984307 in Regimental Reserve to counter any threats from the south or west. At 1545 hours Company B moved to an assembly area east of ZWEIFALL in the vicinity of K-997360, to constitute with other elements of the 1st Battalion, less C Company, a Division Reserve. A and D Companies were to assemble there the next day.

In the center of the Division zone the 39th Infantry continued its defensive role. At 0730 hours Company K took up positions of Company E at F-030339 as the 3rd Battalion began the progressive relief of the 2nd Battalion. Company L held a position at F-010342 and the rest of the Battalion at K-995345. 2nd Battalion positions were from F-023341 to F-031338. The 1st Battalion held the line: F-014338 to F-023340 and F-026333 to F-019327.

At 1400 hours enemy small arms fire developed in the defensive sector held by the 47th Infantry on the left flank of the Division in the vicinity of SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042). Enemy mortar and artillery fire were received in the 3rd Battalion area. An enemy attack followed and at 1800 hours it was reported that the enemy had taken the Company I pillbox (K-000422), which was manned as part of the Company's outpost. This did not seriously effect the Company I main line of defense, and preparations were begun to retake the position before light the next day. Other Regimental units continued the defense of the sector and conducted patrolling.

1st Infantry Division

After encountering strong opposition when the attack was renewed at 0700, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the 26th Infantry gradually reduced enemy resistance in the western outskirts of AACHEN and by late morning it existed only in small isolated groups. By 1135 the 2nd Battalion advance elements had reached the line: K-820420, northeast to the RJ at K-825426, to K-282429, north along the railroad, and was moving to the northwest. At the same time the 3rd Battalion was cleaning out enemy groups of resistance from buildings south of LOUSBERG in

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the vicinity of K-830440. Finally at 1205 Col Wilck, commander of the AACHEN garrison, surrendered the remnants of his command to the 3rd Battalion. The official written surrender was received at 1258 hours by Brig Gen George Taylor, Assistant Division Commander.

The surrender statement follows:

"I, Colonel Gerhard Wilck, commander of the German garrison of AACHEN, Germany, hereby surrender as of this hour, all troops, arms, material, and fortifications under my command to the United States Army, it being agreed that all said troops will be treated as prisoners of war. Likewise the medical personnel, sick, and wounded are turned over for disposition in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention of 1929."

"All these troops have been disarmed.

1200 hours, 21st day of October, 1944, at AACHEN, Germany."

Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division, and the 26th Infantry units made a sweep of the city to round up isolated groups of enemy. A German staff officer was sent in an American armored car to advise enemy groups of the surrender due to the fact that German communications were not functioning. Mopping up continued until 1615. Over 1200 prisoners surrendered. By 1700 the 2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry, was assembled in the vicinity of K-843418. At 1800 Task Force Hogan was in the vicinity of RJ at K-826448 and moved northeast to final positions in the vicinity of VILLA BUCHMANN (K-835450). The 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, moved to the barracks at ANDERNULS (K-852407), while the 2nd Battalion, 26th Infantry, moved back to the barracks (K-873408) near the Brand Road.

In the 18th Infantry sector, north of AACHEN, it was comparatively quiet throughout the period. Enemy activity was limited to intermittent artillery fire, a few rounds of which fell in EILENDORF (K-8943). Defensive positions were improved, and patrol contact maintained with the enemy. To the east of AACHEN, the 16th Infantry continued active patrolling and further consolidated and held positions without loss of ground.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division continued to defend its sector with no change in the disposition of troops. Normal patrol activity was conducted by both Combat Commands Boudinot and Hickey, and the Division Reserve maintained road blocks at MEUSBACH (K-9741). Task Force Hogan remained attached to the 1st Division.

4th Cavalry Group

There was no change in the disposition or mission of the 4th Cavalry Group elements. In the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron Sector on the Group right flank, an enemy plane dropped bombs in the vicinity of MUTZENICH (K-9219), none of which landed near any troops. The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in the northern sector received sporadic small arms fire during the day, and enemy positions were engaged by mortar fire. Enemy wagon traffic was reported fairly heavy in the vicinity of ROLLESBROICH from 1900 to 1945, and a small number of tanks and half-tracks were heard in SIMMERATH (K-9824) at 2335. Both of these targets were engaged by unobserved assault gun fire.

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21 October

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Artillery

1st Division: Fired 140 missions, 40 harassing, 33 counter-attack, 14 counterbattery, 13 vehicle, 11 machine gun and mortar, 6 infantry, and 23 miscellaneous, an expenditure of 2022 rounds.

9th Division: Fired a total of 95 missions as follows: 28 counterbattery, 15 interdiction, 15 harassing, 4 preparation, 4 mortar and machine gun, and 23 miscellaneous close support. Rounds expended: 845.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 15 counterbattery, 7 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, and 7 miscellaneous missions, expending 694 rounds.

15 sound locations were obtained on an enemy battery which was shelling BREINIG (K-9338) at regular 20 minute intervals. Two Battalions of the 3rd Armd Div Arty (1-105 H and 1-155 G) and three battalions of Corps Arty (183rd and 188th (155 H) plus the 195th (8" H) fired at TOT at 2307 on the enemy battery, one minute prior to the time it was due to fire. No more shelling was reported from the enemy battery during the night.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 19 interdiction, 6 personnel, 4 counterbattery, and 1 registration mission, expending 508 rounds.

Corps: Fired 28 counterbattery missions (17 observed), plus 2 enemy CPs, 1 AA Btry, and 1 area target. Rounds expended: 447. A 188th FA Bn (155 H) forward observer adjusted his battalion on a 3 gun enemy battery. The guns were silenced and fires and explosions were started in the position area.

During the past week there had been a steady increase in the amount of enemy shelling in the Corps area behind the front lines, especially artillery position areas and important road nets. Better coordination of fire was noted and the accuracy of some of the concentrations indicated observed fire. Most of the counterbattery fire of the enemy was received at night. These locations were thought by Corps Artillery to have been obtained by flash observers.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hours period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: A Mk IV tank was knocked out by the 634th TD Bn using direct fire. During the period the Bn fired 21 rounds of 3" APC and 69 rounds of 3" HE. The 635th TD Bn expended 487 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction and general support missions. ESCHWEILER (K-9647) was shelled by the 703rd TD Bn again when 400 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire were placed on targets in that area. The 899th TD Bn expended 316 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 1269.

22 OCTOBER 1944

While elements of the 1st Division again swept AACHEN (K-8443) to round up remnants of enemy groups still in the vicinity of the captured city, other units maintained an active defense of the Corps zone. Regrouping of certain units was carried out except for routine patrolling there was little other activity.

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22 October

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All enemy resistance in the AACHEN area ceased and mopping up was completed. In the vicinity of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) enemy activity was limited to scattered patrolling and a small amount of vehicular movement to the east during the morning. On the southern flank of the Corps zone of action, enemy forces occupying the pillboxes east of the GERMETER (F-0233) - ROLLESBROICH (K-9926) Road were relatively inactive throughout the period. Enemy vehicular movement north from ROLLESBROICH was observed during the morning. Enemy artillery fire in the Corps zone was generally light to medium.

The XIX Corps passed to control of the Ninth U.S. Army, which had moved to the north of the First U.S. Army. The VIII Corps passed to control of the First Army in its zone to the south of V Corps. Thus the VII Corps, instead of being in the center of the First Army zone, held the left (north) flank.

9th Infantry Division: Consolidated and defended positions, conducting active patrols to maintain enemy contact.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to maintain defense of its sector and patrol contact with the enemy. Task Force Hogan reverted to Division control.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to maintain defense of its sector and completed round up of prisoners in the AACHEN area, and began regrouping. Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division, 1106th Engineer Combat Group, and 2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry, 28th Division, were relieved from attachment to the Division.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to defend and patrol the right (south) flank of the Corps from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to the northwest of ROLLESBROICH at K-990282, and maintained contact with the V Corps.

9th Infantry Division

The 60th Infantry continued to defend the right flank of the Division and patrolled to the south and southeast to locate possible OP positions and determine the presence and strength of the enemy, but no contact was made. At 0745 hours the 1st Battalion, less Companies C and B, moved to the vicinity of K-987357, joining Company B and the 9th Reconnaissance Troop to constitute Task Force Birks (Division Reserve). Movement was completed by 1200 hours. Company C, with a platoon of tanks attached, moved to the vicinity of F-003319 as the Regimental Reserve.

In the center of the Division zone the 39th Infantry carried out its defensive mission, holding positions and patrolling. At 1000 hours Company E took over positions of Company I (F-010343 - F-013340), including road blocks at F-009342 and F-013339. Company I moved to the vicinity of K-997347. The 47th Infantry defended the left flank and maintained contact with the 3rd Armored Division.

1st Infantry Division

The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 26th Infantry, again swept AACHEN in search of enemy stragglers. The city was policed by patrols from the 3rd Battalion and guard posts were established to prevent unauthorized entrance. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions were assembly positions at K-893408 and K-852407, respectively, with Company E at K-867455. The 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, reverted to Regimental

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control from Division Reserve, and prepared to relieve Companies E, G, and I of the 16th Infantry in defensive positions, southeast of VERLAUTENHEIDE during the night.

Under the Cover of darkness a patrol from the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry, north of AACHEN, captured and destroyed a pillbox in front of the Battalion. Later an enemy patrol, attempting to work into the 2nd Battalion position, was driven off. Routine patrolling was carried out by all units of the 18th Infantry during the period. Enemy artillery fire on the 1st and 3rd Battalions increased at about 1900 hours, but decreased sharply after a concentration was fired by our artillery. The Regiment continued to improve positions, and vehicles were withdrawn for servicing and maintenance as the situation permitted. Positions of the 16th Infantry, east of AACHEN, were further consolidated and held without loss of ground. Patrol contact with the enemy was maintained.

3rd Armored Division

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion reverted to Combat Command Boudinot and relieved the 3rd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, in Combat Command Boudinot's sector at 2015. The 3rd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry, reverted to Division Reserve and closed in the vicinity of K-970409. Task Force Hogan reverted to Division control and at 1700 the 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry, assembled at K-931409 and the 3rd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, at K-930401. The Division Reserve maintained road blocks at MAUSBACH (K-9741).

4th Cavalry Group

On the right flank of the 4th Cavalry Group sector there was very little enemy activity as the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued its defensive and patrol mission. A few rounds of enemy artillery fell in the vicinity of MONSCHAU. There was no change in the central sector where the 759th Light Tank Battalion held an outpost line and patrolled immediately to the rear of the front lines. Fifteen enemy were observed near K-975235 rounding up cattle and were engaged by assault guns. There was no other contact. The 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion provided local security for the vicinity of ROTGEN (K-9128).

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued to defend and patrol the left flank and maintained contact with the 9th Division at K-990287. A considerable amount of enemy vehicular movement, including horse drawn, was heard in the vicinity of the immediate front. Enemy movement, believed to have been heading north, was engaged by artillery about 1 1/2 miles northeast of K-984267, and the movement ceased at 2040 hours. Vehicular movement in the vicinity of WITZERATH (K-9924) stopped when fired on by our artillery at 2300. Light enemy mortar fire and a few artillery shells fell during the period.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 122 missions as follows: 45 counterbattery, 36 harassing, 9 vehicle, 6 mortar, 1 preparation, 1 infantry, and 24 miscellaneous, a total expenditure of 1727 rounds.

9th Division: Fired 45 missions -- 15 harassing, 14 counterbattery, (all located by sound), 2 mortar and machine gun, and 14 close support missions - an expenditure of 1121 rounds. In addition 105 propaganda shells were fired into the enemy positions.

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3rd Armored Division: Fired 49 missions as follows: 14 counterbattery, (1 nebelwerfer), 13 registration, 12 interdiction and harassing, 8 personnel, 1 OP, and 1 horse drawn artillery column. Rounds expended: 1256.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 31 missions, 18 interdiction, 7 counterbattery, 4 vehicle, 1 strong point, and 1 harassing, a total of 680 rounds.

Corps: Fired 20 counterbattery, 5 harassing, 2 registration, and 1 tank park, a total of 28 missions. Rounds expended: 435. A TOT was fired at 0932 hours on an enemy battery located by sound. Battalions participating were 3 from Corps artillery (183 and 188th FA Bns (155 H) and 240th FA Bn (155 G), plus 2 from the 3rd Armd Div Arty (1 105 H and 1 155 G), and the 5th FA Bn (155 H) from the 1st Div. The enemy battery was silenced.

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA (90mm) Gun Bn engaged 3 enemy aircraft between 2048 and 2320 hours with no claims. The 47th, 438th, and 440th AAA AW Bns fired predicted concentrations at unseen targets at 2125 hours but no claims were made as a result of this barrage fire.

Tank Destroyers: 10 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, and 90 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire were expended by the 634th TD Bn on interdiction missions. The 635th TD Bn expended 380 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction and general support missions. Targets in the vicinity of DURWISS (K-9749) and ESCHWEILER (K-9647) were shelled by the 703rd TD Bn with 1742 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire. The 899th TD Bn expended 300 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 712.

23 OCTOBER 1944

Activity of both the Corps and enemy units was limited to light patrolling during the period. Defense of the Corps zone was maintained and regrouping of some units continued. Light to moderate enemy artillery fire fell throughout the Corps zone with some observed fire in the vicinity of LANGERSDORF (K-9726). Corps and division artillery were less active than at any time in recent weeks.

9th Infantry Division: Maintained defensive positions and patrol contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division: Maintained defensive positions and patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Continued regrouping, maintained defensive positions and patrol contact with the enemy.

4th Cavalry Group: Continued to patrol and defend the right (south) flank of the Corps from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to the vicinity of BOILESBROICH (K-9926), and maintained contact with the V Corps to the right.

9th Infantry Division

The 60th Infantry maintained defensive positions on the right flank and patrolled. Trip-flares, booby-traps, and AP mines which had been previously laid, were removed. Additional wire was placed around improved fortifications.

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Both the 39th and 47th Infantry Regiments carried out similar operations. Troops not in the line engaged in training. The 294th Engineer Battalion maintained road blocks between the 39th Infantry and the 47th Infantry on the Division left flank.

3rd Armored Division

Both Combat Commands Boudinot and Hickey continued to defend their positions. The 1st Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, replaced the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, in the line in Combat Command Hickey's zone. The 2nd Battalion moved to an assembly area at K-939420.

1st Infantry Division

Companies I, G, E, and H, 16th Infantry, were relieved of positions southeast of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) by the 1st Battalion of the 26th Infantry which assumed responsibility for the sector (K-885453 - K-891453) at 0900. The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, less Company F, closed in an assembly area in Regimental Reserve in the vicinity of BRAND (K-8840) at 0900. Northeast of AACHEN (K-8443), the sector held by the 18th Infantry was very quiet. There was a considerable decline during the day in enemy artillery fire. A 155mm self-propelled gun, in position near HAAREN (K-8645), was employed to reduce an enemy pillbox. Company K relieved the provisional ("J") company at K-865463, and the latter was disbanded. Preparation was begun for the relief of the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry, by the 2nd Battalion, 26th Infantry, during the night. Vehicles were withdrawn for servicing and maintenance.

Other than the relief of the 16th Infantry units by the 1st Battalion, there was no change in the disposition of 26th Infantry troops. Both the 2nd and 3rd Battalions remained in assembly areas with the former preparing to relieve the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry, during the night.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Group continued its defensive mission and patrolling: On the right of the Group sector, the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, reported a very quiet period. There was no change in the central sector held by the 759th Light Tank Battalion, or in the vicinity of ROTGEN (K-9128) where the 635th tank Destroyer Battalion provided local security. On the north of the Group sector, the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, used assault and mortar fire on small groups of enemy in the vicinity of K-982258. Contact was maintained with the 9th Reconnaissance Troop (9th Division) at K-990287.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 105 missions broken down as follows: 52 harassing, 18 counterbattery, 11 mortar, 6 vehicle, 6 registration, 4 personnel and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1433.

9th Division: Fired 77 missions -- 16 counterbattery, 12 harassing, 10 interdiction, 5 mortar and machine gun, 2 tank, and 32 miscellaneous, a total of 1450 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 11 personnel, 10 counterbattery, 9 registration, 2 vehicle, 2 CP, 2 OP, and 1 interdiction missions. Rounds expended: 762.

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4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 18 interdiction, 3 counter-battery, 2 registration, 2 personnel, 1 CP, and 1 strong point missions. Rounds expended: 447.

Corps: Fired 51 missions as follows: 31 counterbattery, 9 harassing, 3 infantry, 3 CP, 2 registration, 1 vehicle, 1 OP, and 1 strong point. Rounds expended: 648.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hours period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 634th, 635th, and 899th TD Bns expended 96,339, and 300 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire, respectively.
Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 50.

24 OCTOBER 1944

Active defense of the Corps zone was maintained and regrouping continued. Corps and division artillery were more active than the previous day. Meanwhile the enemy undertook no aggressive action, and only light enemy artillery fire and a small number of patrols were reported.

Heavy enemy vehicular traffic, moving both east and west between VORWEIDEN (K-8943) and ROHE (K-9448) during the morning was reported. This traffic decreased after 1200 and only light traffic was reported in the afternoon, moving north into WURSELEN (K-8748).

First U.S. Army reported that the build-up of enemy reserves continued in the NEUSS (F-2789) area. G-2 estimates placed the number of enemy opposing VII Corps at 15,690 men, comprising elements of 6 divisions (the 12th, 246th, 257th, 353rd, and 526th Infantry Divisions, and the 3rd Panzer Grenadier Division), and other miscellaneous units. Immediately behind the lines, available as local reserves, were another estimated 14,100 composed of uncommitted portions of the above divisions. In addition there were, in general reserve capable of being employed on the VII Corps front, an estimated 30,000 troops, in whose ranks were the 9th and 12th SS Divisions, the 9th Panzer Divisions and the 15th Panzer Grenadier Division -- a grand total of 59,790.

Field fortifications and antiaircraft installations have grown steadily during the past month until the enemy defensive belt extends, in varying intensity, from the SIEFGRIED LINE to the RHINE River. Antiaircraft defenses have their greatest density in the ESCHWEILER (K-9647) - DUREN (F-1145) area. Infantry entrenchments and community digging have continued in the areas of LAMMERSDORF (F-0250); MARIAWEILER (F-0947); HUCHEM STAMMELN (F-1051); GURZENICH (F-0944); and along both sides of the ROER River.

9th Infantry Division: Continued defense of positions and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division: Continued defense of positions and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Continued regrouping, and defense of positions; made unsuccessful counter-attack to capture pillbox in front of the 18th Infantry.

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4th Cavalry Groups Continued to patrol and defend the right flank of the Corps from MONSCHAU (K-5418) to the northwest of ROLLESBROICH at K-990282, and maintained contact with V Corps on the right.

9th Infantry Division

All three regiments of the Division continued the defense of the sector and conducted light patrolling. Plans were made for relief of the units by elements of the 28th Division. The 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry, relieved the 2nd Battalion on the line in the Regimental sector at F-026341 - F-030339 - F-026333. Company I relieved Company G at K-997348, and the latter reverted to Regimental Reserve.

3rd Armored Division

The Division maintained its defensive positions throughout the period with no change in the disposition of troops. Enemy activity was limited to intermittent artillery and mortar fire. Patrolling was continued.

1st Infantry Division

Northeast of AACHEN (K-8443), the 2nd Battalion, 26th Infantry, relieved the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry, in position (K-891449 - K-882457), and the latter moved to the vicinity of HAAREN (K-8645). Under the cover of darkness a local attack was launched to capture the large bunker in front of Company I at K-874464, but was unsuccessful in the face of heavy enemy fire as it failed to achieve any surprise. Patrol activity continued throughout the period. The 1st and 3rd Battalions, 16th Infantry, continued to hold defensive positions, that extended from the southwestern edge of WURSELER WALD at K-900437 to the vicinity of STOLBERG (K-9342), and maintained patrol contact with the enemy. The 2nd Battalion remained in the vicinity of BRAND (K-8840).

With the 2nd Battalion, 26th Infantry, moving into the line when it relieved the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry, the 26th Infantry completely took over the sector from VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) to WURSELER WALD. The 3rd Battalion moved into the barracks vacated by the 2nd Battalion at K-873408.

4th Cavalry Group

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron defended the MONSCHAU sector and patrolled to the east. No change in the enemy or our own line occurred during the period. Several rounds of medium artillery and mortar fire fell in the area. In the central sector the 759th Light Tank Company patrolled to the east and maintained outposts. Seven civilians crossed the lines from KOZEN (K-9522) and after interrogation were turned over to the CIC. Local security for ROTGEN (K-9128) was provided by the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion. To the north the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron defended the LAMMERSDORF (K-9626) area. Enemy vehicular movement along the ROLLESBROICH (K-9926) - SIMMERATH (K-9824) road was engaged by assault guns.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 103 missions as follows: 36 harassing, 11 preparation, 10 counterbattery, 9 personnel, 7 vehicle, 5 pillbox, 4 tank, and 21 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1709.

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9th Division: Fired 103 missions as follows: 29 counterbattery (all located by sound), 17 harassing, 15 interdiction, 10 preparation, 7 propaganda, 3 mortar and machine gun, 4 tank, and 21 other close support -- a total of 2343 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 58 missions as follows: 36 counterbattery, 8 personnel, 5 registration, 4 vehicle, 2 harassing, 1 mortar, and 1 OP. Rounds expended: 1539. The 991st FA Bn (155 G SP) was calibrated during the period.

4th Cavalry Group: The 87th Armd FA Bn fired 3 counterbattery, 1 infantry, 1 mortar, and 18 interdiction missions, expending 467 rounds.

Corps Arty: Fired 80 missions, 54 counterbattery, 20 infantry, 8 town, 4 registration, 2 CP, 1 pillbox, and a tank mission. Rounds expended: 1291. Two CPs fired upon were located in houses, one of which was destroyed by the 183rd FA Bn (155 H) and the other by the 195th FA Bn (8" H). Precision adjustments were made on both missions at ranges of 6000 and 9000 yards, respectively. Corps Artillery joined the XIX Corps Artillery on 8 TOT's during the night. Four of the missions were on enemy batteries and four on built-up areas.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn fired 96 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction missions. The 635th TD Bn expended 296 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction and general support missions. The 703rd TD Bn fired 425 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 899th TD Bn fired 114 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 14.

25 OCTOBER 1944

All units maintained an active defense of the Corps zone as regrouping of First U. S. Army troops continued. At 1200 the 9th Infantry Division, less the 47th Infantry and certain attachments to it passed from VII Corps control to V Corps. Enemy activity increased during the afternoon with a noticeable rise in the amount of artillery and mortar fire on forward elements after 1600. Enemy vehicular movement was seen north of GRESSENICH (K-9842) at 1300A and a small group of enemy tracked vehicles were heard moving under the cover of darkness along the Corps front after 1900A.

A temporary boundary between the VII and V Corps, effective at 1200A, was set as follows: EUPEN (K-7926) (inclusive to V Corps); ROTT (K-9232) (inclusive to V Corps); ZWEIFALL (K-9536) (inclusive to VII Corps); OBERMAUBACH (F-0936) (inclusive to V Corps).

9th Infantry Division: Passed to control of V Corps effective at 1200A except for RCT 47 and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion which were attached to the 3rd Armored Division. Elements of 294th Engineers within V Corps zone were attached to V Corps for operations only until passed through or relieved by elements of V Corps.

3rd Armored Division: RCT 47, (9th Division) and 294th Engineer Combat

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Battalion, attached, continued active defense and maintained patrol contact with the enemy. Rotated units.

1st Infantry Division: Continued active defense. Made local attack, capturing a pillbox and a few prisoners.

4th Cavalry Group: Attached to V Corps for operations only, effective at 1200A. Prior to that time, continued to patrol and defend the right (south) flank of the Corps from MONSCHAU (K-9418) to the northwest of ROLLESBROICH (K-990282), and maintained contact with the V Corps.

9th Infantry Division

The 60th Infantry continued to defend in its sector, while relief was being effected by units of the 110th Infantry, 28th Division. Service Company was relieved at 1630 and proceeded to CAMP ELSENBORN (K-9108) to prepare for the reception of the Regiment in the new area. The 39th Infantry was in the process of being relieved by the 109th Infantry, 28th Division. The 2nd Battalion, Anti-tank Company, and elements of the Cannon Company were relieved at 1630 and moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of K-8328, east of EUPEN, awaiting relief of the rest of the 1st Battalion. The 3rd Battalion remained in defensive positions pending relief. The 47th Infantry was attached to the 3rd Armored Division and continued to defend in its sector.

3rd Armored Division

Defense of the Division sector was carried out with no change in the disposition of Combat Command Hickey. In the sector held by Combat Command Boudinot, the 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, relieved the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion at K-947431 - K-952429 - K-961429 - K-972423. The relief was completed at 2115 and the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion reverted to Division control. The 2nd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, was relieved by the 1st Battalion at (K-947431 - K-952429 - K-961429 - K-972423) by 1530, and closed in assembly area at K-928379 at 1630 hours. The 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry and 1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment held the same line.

1st Infantry Division

The unsuccessful attack of the night before to knock out pillboxes in the zone of the 18th Infantry, north of HAAREN (K-8645), was renewed at 1830 when Companies B and I attacked the same pillbox in the vicinity of K-874464. A pillbox at K-874461 was captured by 1982 hours and 25 prisoners taken. The bunker at K-874464 was surrounded, but the attacking troops came under heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, and after stubborn fighting withdrew to their original positions at 2400 hours. On the right flank of the Division, Company I, 16th Infantry, relieved Company F at K-902434 at 1930 hours, and the latter joined the rest of the 2nd Battalion, in the vicinity of BRAND (K-8840). The 1st and 3rd Battalions continued active patrolling to maintain enemy contact. The 1st and 2nd Battalions, 26th Infantry, continued to hold positions in the center of the Division zone, southeast of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845). Positions were consolidated and improved, and patrol contact with the enemy maintained.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 181 missions as follows: 23 counterbattery, 8 personnel,

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3 OP, 64 vehicle, 2 tank, 1 pillbox, 12 mortar, 7 preparation, 3 target marking, 30 harassing, and 18 interdiction. Rounds expended: 2656.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 55 missions -- 20 counterbattery, 10 single gun, 6 registration, 7 harassing, 2 tank, 2 personnel, 5 vehicle, and 3 mortar -- an expenditure of 1248 rounds.

Corps: Fired 19 counterbattery, 3 personnel, 8 harassing, 3 mortar, a total of 33 missions. Rounds expended: 950. Five of the counterbattery and two of the personnel missions were fired TOT with the additional fires of 2 battalions from the XIX Corps and 2 battalions from the 1st Div Arty. The 188th (155 H), 240th (155 G) and 195th (8" H) FA Bns of the VII Corps participated in these TOTs. All battalions fired 1 volley on each target.

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA (90mm) Gun Bn destroyed 1 ME-109 out of 2 engaged at 1645. The other was claimed by two AW battalions attached to Divisions of the Corps.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn expended 66 rounds of 3" HE and 2 rounds of 3" APC direct fire, neutralizing a pillbox and an OP. The Battalion also fired 96 rounds of indirect fire on harassing missions. The 635th TD Bn expended 314 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction and general support missions. Targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647) were again shelled by the 703rd TD Bn which expended 710 rounds of 90mm indirect fire on these missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 21.

26 OCTOBER 1944

Activity of both Corps and enemy troops consisted of patrolling and sniping. Artillery fires were comparatively light with counterbattery and harassing missions predominating. Unfavorable weather again prevented air support for ground troops.

3rd Armored Division: (RCT 47 and 298th Engineer Combat Battalion attached): Maintained defense of its sector and patrolled to maintain enemy contact.

1st Infantry Division: Maintained defense of its sector and patrolled to maintain enemy contact.

3rd Armored Division

There was no change in the disposition of Combat Commands Boudinot or Hickey. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion moved into reserve position in rear of the 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, which continued to hold road blocks on the right flank from F-005345 to F-010390. Enemy activity consisted of light mortar and artillery fire in the Division area.

1st Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, from the edge of STOLBERG (K-9342) to the southwestern edge of WURSELER WALD at K-900437, the 16th Infantry held defensive positions, and conducted active patrolling. At 1900 a demonstration was made with mortars and indirect machine gun and tank fire, but there was no reaction from the enemy, except his continuation of intermittent artillery fire. In the center

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sector, the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 26th Infantry, remained in defensive positions, which were further consolidated. A slight infiltration by an enemy patrol temporarily pushed the Company E outpost back, but the original positions were quickly restored. Reconnaissance patrols were sent to the front to maintain enemy contact.

North of HAAREN (K-8645), the 18th Infantry continued to hold the left flank with two battalions occupying front line positions. The 2nd Battalion completed relief of the 3rd Battalion at approximately 2200 hours at K-871461 - K-864468 and the 3rd Battalion moved to Regimental Reserve at K-867455.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 111 missions as follows: 14 counterbattery, 39 harassing, 15 area targets, 4 tank, 4 personnel, 11 mortar, 6 vehicle, 4 registration, 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1605.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 77 missions as follows: 10 counterbattery, 15 single gun, 7 registration, 8 personnel, 17 harassing, 4 enemy patrol, 6 mortar, 1 train, 1 preparation, 1 OP, and 7 working parties. Rounds expended: 1556.

Corps: Fired 26 counterbattery, 3 assembly areas, 3 registration, 19 harassing, 3 mortar and machine gun, and 1 TOT on SCHMIDT (F-0629) by the 172nd FA Bn (4.5 G), 951st FA Bn (155 H), 981st FA Bn (155 G) and Btry C, 195th FA Bn (8" H). All units fired 1 volley each. Rounds expended: 676.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: No activity reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 24.

27 OCTOBER 1944

The Corps continued to retate units in the front lines and continued patrol activity and harassing artillery fire into the enemy sector. Several patrol clashes took place in the vicinity of QUINX (K-8845) during the period, but no other aggressive movement on the part of the enemy was reported. All along the Corps front our partols were able to advance between 300 and 1000 yards before meeting machine gun and small arms fire. Enemy artillery fire varied from light and harassing in the HAAREN (K-8645) - VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) area to moderate in the STOLBERG (K-9342) - SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) area with an increase in the volume of fire noted after 1600 hours.

3rd Armored Division (RCT 47, and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued active defense of positions and rotated units.

1st Infantry Division: Continued active defense of positions and rotated units.

3rd Armored Division

The Division continued to defend its zone with no changes in the location of front line positions. In the zone of Combat Command Hickey, the 3rd Battalion,

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36th Armored Infantry Regiment, replaced the 1st Battalion of the Regiment in positions at K-932431 - K-935433 - K-944429. Relief was completed at 1900 hours and the 1st Battalion moved into an assembly area at MAUSBACH (K-9740).

1st Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division zone, the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, relieved the 3rd Battalion of defensive positions at K-921426 - K-900437. The relief was completed without incident at 1850 when the 2nd Battalion, less Company F, took over in the defensive positions on the front lines. The 3rd Battalion, less Company I, moved to the vicinity of BRAND at K-891400. In the center of the Division zone, the 26th Infantry held defensive positions without change in the front lines or disposition of troops. Action was limited to patrolling by reconnaissance parties which probed the enemy emplacements and positions. The 3rd Battalion remained in Regimental Reserve. North of HAAREN (K-8645), the 18th Infantry defensive positions were improved and enemy contact was maintained by active patrolling. Company A moved to the rear of Company B at K-872-453 as Regimental Reserve.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 120 missions as follows: 12 counterbattery, 5 tank, 9 personnel, 23 mortar and machine gun, 2 strong point, 9 registration, 40 harassing, 6 area target, 2 interdiction, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 207.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 56 missions broken down as follows: 6 counterbattery, 1 SP gun, 1 tank, 6 registration, 3 personnel, 3 harassing, 1 OP, 1 CP, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1336.

Corps: Fired 14 counterbattery, 50 harassing and interdiction, 1 Personnel, 4 registration, 1 CP, 1 pillbox, and 3 TOT missions on towns. Rounds expended: 1292. The towns fired on were RÖHE (K-9448), ESCHWEILER (K-9647), and WEISWEILER (F-0048).

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyer: The 634th TD Bn fired 288 rounds of 3" HE indirect harassing fire during the past two days. The 703rd TD Bn expended 666 rounds of 90mm HE on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 13.

28 OCTOBER 1944

An active defense of the Corps zone was maintained and artillery was employed to destroy enemy pillboxes in the vicinity of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845). Throughout the period the enemy continued a passive defense and confined his actions to artillery and mortar fire, which was sporadic all along the Corps front. Only when our patrols approached his defensive positions was small arms and machine gun fire received. No counteraction was taken when our artillery destroyed his pillboxes. Weather conditions continued to be unfavorable for combined military operations.

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3rd Armored Division: (RCT 47 and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued to hold defensive positions and conducted active patrolling.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to hold defensive positions and conducted active patrolling.

3rd Armored Division

There was no change in the disposition of Combat Commands Boudinot or Hickey as the Division continued to hold its defensive positions. Company H, 33rd Armored Regiment, relieved Company H, 32nd Armored Regiment, on road blocks at MAUSBACH (K-9740), and the relieved unit rejoined its Regiment in the vicinity of K-940384. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued active patrols in the rear of the 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, maintaining contact with all road blocks held by the Engineers. There was no change in the location of units of the attached 47th Regimental Combat Team, holding defensive positions in the KREWINKLE (K-9841) - SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) - GRESSENICHER WALD area.

1st Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, the 16th Infantry carried out routine patrolling and improved defensive positions, while in the center sector, the 26th Infantry continued to hold defensive positions without change. Squad outposts were established to the front of the 1st Battalion without enemy resistance, except artillery fire. To the north of HAAREN (K-8645), the 18th Infantry employed artillery fire to reduce a number of enemy pillboxes. At 1200 a tank and tank destroyer fired from positions in the Company B area on the pillbox at K-874161. Several hits were scored on the apertures and door, causing casualties among the occupants. At 1400 pillboxes were fired upon at K-876462 and K-875463. After a number of hits were obtained the enemy came out under a Red Cross flag to evacuate their wounded.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 149 missions as follows: 16 counterbattery, 8 registration, 3 OP, 9 personnel, 5 vehicle, 16 mortar, 56 harassing, and 36 area targets. Rounds expended: 2722.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 92 missions as follows: 9 counterbattery, 16 single gun, 14 AA btrys, 4 mortar, 1 OP, 1 CP, 1 close support, 19 registration, 26 harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1523.

Corps: Fired 102 missions as follows: 34 counterbattery, 43 harassing, 17 registration, 2 AA Btry, 1 ammunition dump, 1 CP, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1154. Of the counterbattery missions 10 were observed.

A forward observer of the 3rd Armd Div adjusted the 240th FA Bn (155 G) on an enemy battery with good effect at 16,500 yards. An observer of the 751st FA Bn (155 H) adjusted his Bn on an enemy battery at 12,000 yards, starting one fire in the area. An Air OP of the 18th FA Gp Hq adjusted the 188th FA Bn (155 H) on an enemy battery, reporting several fires started in the battery location, at a range of 13,800 yards. A forward observer of the 34th FA Bn conducted a precision adjustment with an 8" How (195th FA Bn) on two pillboxes in GRESSENICH (K-9842). Both were destroyed by direct hits at 10,000 yards range with only 10 rounds fired.

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Antiaircraft: action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn fired 192 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn expended 548 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647).

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 11.

29 OCTOBER 1944

Corps units actively defended positions all along the front while the enemy restricted his operations to patrolling. There was an increase in enemy vehicular activity, particularly on the ESCHWEILER (K-9647) - BROICHWEIDEN (K-8949) road, where traffic averaged two vehicles every minute. The bulk of this enemy traffic was administrative and no troop movements were reported. Enemy artillery fire also increased during the period with 75, 88, 150, and 170mm fire reported. Enemy patrolling was not aggressive. Our patrols met enemy machine gun and small arms fire from defensive positions.

Intermittent artillery fire fell in the BRAND (K-8840) area throughout the day. VICHT (K-9639) was shelled between 1800 and 1930 hours with 150 and 170mm fire. In the 1st Division zone approximately 1500 rounds of artillery and 750 rounds of mortar fire fell during the period. From 1850 to 1950, enemy aircraft, operating singly or in groups of two to four, were over the Corps area. High explosive and anti-personnel bombs were dropped in EILENDORF (K-8943) - BRAND (K-8840) - STOLBERG (K-9342) - WALHEIM (K-8935), and northeast of BREINIG (K-9337). Several enemy craft were shot down by Corps automatic weapons AA units in the afternoon, while during the evening barrage fire was successfully employed by our antiaircraft artillery gun (90mm) batteries, and several more enemy planes were destroyed.

3rd Armored Division (47th RCT and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued to maintain enemy contact by patrolling and held defensive positions with no change in the front lines.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to maintain enemy contact by patrolling and held defensive positions with no change in the front lines.

3rd Armored Division

There was no change in the location or disposition of troops of Combat Commands Boudinot or Hickey or the Division Reserve as all units continued to hold defensive positions. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion carried out routine patrolling during the period to the rear of the 294th Engineer sector and maintained contact with all road blocks held by the Engineers on the right flank of the Division zone. There was no change in the lines of the attached 47th Regimental Combat Team.

1st Infantry Division

The only change in the sector held by the 16th Infantry on the right flank of the Division, from the edge of STOLBERG (K-9342) to southwestern edge of WURSELER WALD, was the relief of Company I at K-902434 by Company F. The relieved unit reverted to the 3rd Battalion at 1600 and rejoined the rest of the Battalion in reserve, near BRAND at K-891400. In the center sector the 3rd Battalion of the 26th Infantry, relieved the 2nd Battalion in positions at K-891449 -

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K-882457, with Companies I, K, and L relieving Companies G, F, and E, respectively. Relief was begun at 2030 hours and upon completion at 2315 the 2nd Battalion moved to K-873408 in reserve.

Units were also rotated north of HAAREN (K-8645), where the 18th Infantry held defensive positions. The 3rd Battalion relieved the 1st Battalion at K-882457 - K-871461, (Company A at K-872453), and the 1st Battalion moved to K-867455 in reserve. The 634th Tank Destroyer Battalion neutralized pillboxes at K-898442, K-873461, and K-874462, using armor-piercing combination and high explosive shells.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 119 missions as follows: 14 counterbattery, 22 interdiction, 44 harassing, 6 personnel, 4 vehicle, 18 mortar, 1 pillbox, 1 OP, 1 registration, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1699. Btry C, 116th AAA Gun (90 mm) Bn fired 15 of the interdiction missions.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 79 missions as follows: 2 counterbattery, 19 single gun, 4 AA btrys, 3 mortar, 1 on horse-drawn arty, 1 truck convoy, 9 personnel, 13 harassing, 3 assembly areas, 16 registration, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1293.

Corps: Fired 99 missions -- 40 counterbattery, and 55 harassing and interdiction, 2 assembly areas, 1 OP, and 1 registration -- a total of 1154 rounds. Counterbattery missions observed were 10, 1 of which was by artillery reconnaissance.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp. Confirmation of the 100th Category I claim, and of the 66th Category II claim by AA units of the Corps was received this date.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn neutralized 3 pillboxes, using 42 rounds of APC, and 55 rounds of 3" HE direct fire. 192 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire were also expended on harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn fired 549 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 10.

30 OCTOBER 1944

Continued fog with overcast skies in the morning again made air support impossible and the restricted visibility caused a decrease in artillery fire as Corps units limited their activity to patrolling. All defensive positions were held. No offensive action was undertaken by the enemy.

3rd Armored Division: (RCT 47 and the 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Held defensive positions and patrolled.

1st Infantry Division: Held defensive positions and patrolled.

3rd Armored Division

Active patrols were maintained by the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion in the area of the road blocks manned by the 294th Engineer Combat Battalion. Patrols of platoon strength reconnoitered in the area of road blocks 1 and 2 (K-918401 and F-018403) and road blocks 4 and 5 (F-016407 and F-008412)

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without enemy contact. There was no change in the disposition of Combat Commands Boudinot or Hickey or the attached 47th Regimental Combat Team.

1st Infantry Division

All units of the Division holding front line defensive positions (16th Infantry on the right from STOLBERG (K-9342) to the southwestern edge of WURSELER WALD; 26th Infantry in the center, extending from the edge of WURSELER WALD to the vicinity of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845); 18th Infantry to the north of VERLAUTENHEIDE to K-865465) continued to maintain contact with the enemy by patrolling. There was no change in the disposition of troops or the front lines.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 131 missions as follows: 52 harassing, 39 interdiction, 22 counterbattery, 7 mortar, 6 infantry, 1 tank, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1694.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 38 missions as follows: 23 enemy batteries (16 were fired TOT), 7 harassing, 4 registration, 3 infantry, and 1 mortar. Rounds expended: 1205.

Corps: Fired 34 counterbattery and 40 harassing missions, expending a total of 831 rounds. All missions were unobserved. A number of the counterbattery missions were on request of the 3rd Armored and 1st Infantry Divisions and were fired TOT. The 980th FA Bn (155 G) completed calibration during the period.

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn engaged 9 single enemy aircraft at 1854, 1900, 1901, 1910, 1932, 1934, 1935, 0407, and 0429 hours. Three enemy planes were destroyed and another probably destroyed. The Battalion was handicapped during the engagements at 1854 and 1900 hours by the rules which prevented engagement of an unidentified craft until a hostile act was committed (no hostile track having been received on the AWS frequency). The Battalion fired 49 rounds in a Field Arty role, 1 registration with the 1st Division Arty, and 1 with the Corps.

The 474th AAA AW Bn (SP) engaged two Me-109s at 1305 hours, and probably destroyed both. The Battalion also participated in an automatic weapons concentration at an unidentified aircraft at 1900 hours. The 438th AAA AW Bn destroyed 2 Me-109s at 1305 hours, participated in barrage fire at an unidentified aircraft at 1900, and engaged a FW-190 at 1940 hours, but made no claim for this target. The 440th AAA AW Bn engaged 2 Me-109s at 1305 hours, claiming 1 Category I claim.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 6.

31 OCTOBER 1944

Routine patrolling and defense of positions were carried out by Corps troops during the period without change in the disposition of units or the front lines. The weather remained unfavorable with poor visibility, and artillery activity was largely restricted to unobserved counterbattery and harassing missions. An increase in enemy activity in the STOLBERG (K-9342) - GRESSENICH (K-9842) area was noted, but no aggressive operations were undertaken.

3rd Armored Division (47th RCT, and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued to defend positions in Division zone and maintained enemy contact by patrolling.

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31 October

1st Infantry Division: Continued to defend positions in Division zone and maintained enemy contact by patrolling.

3rd Armored Division

The Division Reserve continued to hold road blocks in the vicinity of MAUSBACH (K-9740) while the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion patrolled to the rear of the 294th Engineers, holding road blocks on the right flank, and maintained contact with all road blocks. Patrols from the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion which probed enemy lines to the north (to F-018326) and to the south (to F-015354) failed to make enemy contact. There was no change in the zones held by Combat Commands Boudinot or Hickey.

1st Infantry Division

There was no change in the front lines of the Division extending from STOLBERG (K-9342) on the right, northwestward to RAVELSBERG (K-867466). All front line units maintained active patrols. Tank Destroyers were again successfully employed to neutralize pillboxes. Arrangements were completed to send a battery from each artillery battalion to VERVIERS (K-6723) for ordnance maintenance check.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 118 missions as follows: 59 harassing, 15 counterbattery, 5 Mortar (2 located by sound), 5 buildings, 4 interdiction, 3 personnel, 2 machine gun, 1 pillbox, and 24 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1371.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 65 missions as follows: 26 counterbattery, 8 harassing, 7 mortar, 7 personnel, 5 vehicle, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1389.

Corps: Fired 61 missions -- 26 counterbattery, 25 harassing, and 10 miscellaneous -- a total expenditure of 828 rounds.

The 195th FA Bn (8" H) was adjusted on a pillbox at a range of 9500 yards by a 33rd FA Bn (1st Inf Div) FO. Several hits were obtained out of the 17 rounds expended. Btry A, 285th FA Obsn Bn, set up an experimental counter-mortar sound base in the 1st Div sector, and since 26 Oct. 15 mortar and 7 artillery locations were obtained.

An example of the close artillery cooperation across the Army front follows: At 310630 the enemy started shelling ZWEIFALL (K-9536) (V Corps zone). V Corps counterbattery sent the shell rep to VII Corps counterbattery. The 13th Obsn Bn of VII Corps reported a sound location for the XIX Corps sector that fit the shell rep. The VII Corps FDC requested XIX Corps FDC to fire the mission. XIX Corps fired at 0715 hours, and the shelling of ZWEIFALL ceased. (Note: All Arty reports are from 1200 to 1200).

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: (period 300800 to 01800): The 634th TD Bn fired 384 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn expended 1058 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647).

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 14.

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
A. P. O. 307, U.S.Army

1 November 1944

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

ASSIGNMENT	NAME	RANK	ASN	BRANCH	COMPONENT
COMMANDING GENERAL	J LAWTON COLLINS	Maj Gen	05247	USA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	JOHN J WALSH	Capt	0391208	FA	RES
CORPS ARTY COMMANDER	(1)WILLISTON B PALMER	Brig Gen	012246	USA	RA
Asst Arty Commander	(1)LEMUEL MATHEWSON	Col	014980	FA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	(1)WILLIAM W CARSON Jr	1st Lt	0440408	FA	RES
CHEIF OF STAFF	RICHARD C PARTRIDGE	Col	012630	GSC	RA
Deputy Chief of Staff	HOWARD S SEARLE	Col	0123165	GSC	NG
Liaison Off	GILSON S PETERSON	Maj	0363994	Cav	RES
Liaison Off	JOHN C HARRISON	Maj	0342679	QMC	RES
Liaison Off	WALTER W DILLARD	Capt	0327063	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES C JOHNSON	Capt	0304772	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES W GORMAN	Capt	0285768	FA	RES
Liaison Off	(2)CHARLES W BAER	Capt	0361373	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JOSEPH B KILLMORE	1st Lt	0392409	FA	RES
Liaison Off	WILLIAM W MAXEY	1st Lt	01176792	FA	AUS
Liaison Off	(2)GEORGES RAGACHE	Aspirant			
Chief Clerk	WILLIAM B MADDOCK	WOJG	W2131284	USA	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-1	JOHN D HIGGINS	Col	0152349	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	EDWARD M FRIEND Jr	Lt Col	0310219	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE B FOWLES	Maj	0309703	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	(2)MURRAY A CLYBURN	Maj	0347661	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE M RISER	Capt	0228767	FA	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-2	LESLIE D CARTER	Col	010663	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2	DAVID B GOODWIN	Lt Col	021914	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2 (Air O)	WILLIAM C JESSE	Lt Col	0302992	Cav	NG
Asst A C of S G-2	KENNETH L HOUSTON	Maj	0326319	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	JOHN W STARK	Maj	0380508	CAC	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	CARL J WILSON	Capt	0385386	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	HERBERT B CLARK	1st Lt	01293912	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	JOHANCE L BENEUSSI	1st Lt	0571526	AC	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	CHARLES J BRUCHEN	1st Lt	01002589	AGD	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	PRESTON M MARSHARD	WOJG	W2131280	USA	AUS
	OB UNIT NO 6				
	(2)ALEXANDER BLAZEVICIUS	1st Lt	01296983	Inf	AUS
	PI TEAM NO 10				
	(2)LOUIS PANT	Capt	01045664	CAC	AUS
	(2)MORRIS GLASS	1st Lt	01994434	Inf	AUS

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps
1 Nov 1944 continued.

	FI TEAM NO 29				
	(2)THOMAS P COUNIAL	Capt	01110429	CE	AUS
	(2)PATSY M MIRAGLIA	1st Lt	01301321	QMC	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 16				
	(2)MAX SCHLOSSBERG	1st Lt	01102701	FA	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 33				
	(2)JOHN P HEINLEIN	1st Lt	01180419	FA	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 44				
	(2)ADAM J EISENHAUER	Capt	0393829	CAC	RES
	MI TEAM NO 419				
	(2)PIERRE P LaROCHE	1st Lt	01308258	Inf	AUS
	2467 WEATHER SQ DET "HS"				
	LUCIUS A PERRY Jr	Capt	0382518	AC	AUS
	ELBERT C FERRICK	2d Lt	0865488	AC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-3	ORLANDO C TROXEL Jr	Col	018487	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-3 (Air)	THURSTON T PAUL Jr	Lt Col	0312948	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT W DUFF	Lt Col	0365127	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	HENRY M HENRY	Lt Col	0246714	FA	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	BERGIN V DUCKEY	Lt Col	0360244	Inf	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT J ROSA	Maj	0352011	Cav	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	NED P DICKSON	Maj	0386040	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	JOSEPH V PACE Jr	Capt	0390720	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	FRANCIS P MORLEY Jr	Capt	0390599	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	NICHOLAS McINTIRE	2d Lt	01048982	CAC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-4	JAMES G ANDINO	Col	015677	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-4	THOMAS N FIGURS	Lt Col	0398172	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-4	(2)WILLIS H ROSS	Maj	0270426	CE	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	LEA C ROBERTS	Maj	0349693	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	TOM J HOLTON	Maj	0453734	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	ALFRED F MOFFITT Jr	Capt	0386233	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	EVERT HEATH	1st Lt	01304211	Inf	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-5	DELL R HARDIN	Col	0171321	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	FRANK H McFARLAND	Lt Col	0190171	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	STRATFORD E McKENDRICK	Maj	0328055	FA	NG
	Mr L. W. FORSYTHE	AMERICAN RED CROSS			
ADJUTANT GENERAL	LAWTON BUTLER	Col	016921	AGD	RA
Asst AG	JACKSON C BAINES	Lt Col	0264141	AGD	RES
Asst AG	ROBERT J SMITH	Maj	0348305	AGD	NG
Asst AG	FRED O BERGMAN	Capt	01000913	AGD	AUS
Postal Off	(3)JAMES A DOLAN	1st Lt	01297855	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	EARL M WILLIAMS	CW	W2114245	USA	AUS
Asst AG	(4)CARL A ALIPANO	WOJG	W2109898	USA	AUS

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Directory of Offs Hq VII Corps,
1 Nov 1944 continued.

5th MRU (M)

Asst AG	HAROLD K DOWNEY	Capt	01283046	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	FRANCIS L GUILFOYLE	1st Lt	01001796	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	WILLIAM H MOSSER Jr	1st Lt	01002998	AGD	AUS
INSPECTOR GENERAL	JOHN W NICHOLSON	Col	05608	IGD	RA
Asst IG	MILES N CULEHAN	Lt Col	0132387	IGD	NG
Asst IG	ROBERT L SNYDER	Maj	0303549	IGD	RES
Asst IG	(2)VICTOR A DARLING	Capt	0329375	IGD	AUS
Asst IG	LEONARD HOFFMAN	CWO	W2114256	USA	AUS
JUDGE ADVOCATE	RICHARD F WELCH	Col	0225556	JAGD	RES
Asst JA	EDWARD L VanRODEN	Lt Col	0139956	JAGD	RES
QUARTERMASTER	PAUL E WARFIELD	Col	0246401	QMC	NG
Asst QM	JOHN G TAFF	Lt Col	0329067	QMC	RES
Asst QM	(2)JUAN A PALERM	Maj	0325000	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HERMAN P BOYLE Jr	Maj	0393313	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HARRY P HUTFLES	1st Lt	01110576	QMC	AUS
Asst QM	(2)NED L ARCENEAUX	WOJG	W2109890	USA	AUS
SURGEON	ROBERT H PARR	Col	0240710	MC	RES
Asst Surg	JAMES R FANCHER	Lt Col	0360582	MC	NG
Asst Surg	JOSEPH F BANKS	Maj	0496405	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	NORMAN C ROBISON	Maj	0472662	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	(2)JAMES T ASCH	Capt	0447621	MC	RES
Chief Clerk	LAWRENCE A PECCO	CWO	W2114253	USA	AUS
FINANCE OFFICER	ELMER A STROM	Col	0232150	FD	NG
Asst Fin Off	ANDREW S DONNELLY	1st Lt	02040990	FD	AUS
Asst Fin Off	(4)LESLIE R YOCUM	CWO	W2109871	USA	AUS
CHEMICAL OFFICER	JACK A BARNES	Lt Col	0283115	CWS	RES
Asst Cml Off	IRWIN W SHUTT	Maj	0346933	CWS	RES
ENGINEER	MASON J YOUNG	Col	03788	CE	RA
Asst Engr	HENRY M BLACK	Lt Col	0259095	CE	RES
Asst Engr	(2)GLENN H PLUMLEE	Maj	0352959	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ALBION W KNIGHT	Capt	0366716	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ROBERT M GILLESPIE	Capt	0364884	CE	RES
Asst Engr	PHILIP E SMITH	Capt	01102061	CE	AUS
ORDNANCE OFFICER	ARTHUR H LUSE	Col	07537	Ord Dept	RA
Asst Ord Off	MARTIN F SHAUGHNESSY	Lt Col	0323425	Ord Dept	NG
Asst Ord Off	SAMUEL M COHEN	Maj	0122951	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	RICHARD A GRINNELL	Maj	0382097	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN SUNYOK	Capt	0387454	Inf	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN C BELLOWS	Capt	0416205	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	WILLIAM D HALL Jr	WOJG	W2120953	USA	AUS
Asst Ord Off	WILLIAM J JANKOWSKI	WOJG	W2131344	USA	AUS

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Director of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
1 Nov 1944 continued.

SIGNAL OFFICER	JOHN A SAWYER	Col	017177	Sig C	RA
Asst Sig Off	CHARLES T WESNER	Maj	0276309	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	HUGH SMITH (DS)	Capt	0351848	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	JOHN BRAWLEY	Capt	01634554	Sig C	AUS
Asst Sig Off	VICTOR G FLORENCE	CWO	W2109861	USA	AUS
	165th Sig Photo Co Det "B"				
	RALPH N TUDOR	1st Lt	01638694	Sig C	AUS
CHAPLAIN	F HERBERT MOEHLMANN	Col	017986	Ch	RA
Asst Ch	PATRICK J GIBSON	Lt Col	0325091	Ch	RES
	SIDNEY M LEPKOWITZ (DS)	Capt	0471729	Ch	AUS
SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER	ROBERT P WILSON	Maj	0289950	Inf	NG
Asst Sp Sv Off	(2)WILLIAM C SMITH Jr	1st Lt	0375518	FA	RES
PROVOST MARSHAL	(4)JOHN D BRADLEY Jr	Lt Col	0341714	Cav	RES
Asst PM	EARL W MUMLEY	Capt	0354776	CMP	RES
Asst PM	(4)ROBERT L RICHTERS	Capt	0437731	Inf	RES
AIR SUPPORT PARTY OFF FR HQ IX FI COMD	(2)SIDNEY F ERODY	Maj	0428933	AC	NG
CIC DET NO 207					
COMMANDING OFFICER	JAMES K DORSETT Jr	Maj	0362283	Inf	RES
Executive	JOHN H HEMINWAY	Capt	01302652	Inf	AUS
	EDWARD C STOLLENWERCK	1st Lt	01304812	Inf	AUS
	CLAYMER SCHLUTER	1st Lt	01544090	AUS	AUS
	JOHN H REBER	2d Lt	0887407	AUS	AUS
	DANIEL R BADGER	2d Lt	0887384	AUS	AUS
	FENTON MORAN	2d Lt	01996388	AUS	AUS
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY VII CORPS					
HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT	LAWRENCE L LARSEN	Capt	0352065	Inf	RES
Executive Off	FREDERICK FERGUSON	Capt	0388735	Inf	RES
Mess Off	GLENN TERRELL Jr	1st Lt	0442649	Inf	RES
Supply Off	SHERWOOD V GREGORY	1st Lt	01290594	Inf	AUS
Asst Supply Off	JOHN J McGEE	1st Lt	0532462	Inf	RES
Personnel Off	JAMES L HAYES	CWO	W2116181	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES L WHITEHURST	CWO	W2109873	USA	AUS
Asst Supply Off	FREDERICK D HEIM	WOJG	W2116182	USA	AUS
Asst Motor Off	MAX A LOOMIS	WOJG	W2109892	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES F BROWER	WOJG	W2116187	USA	AUS
MEDICAL DETACHMENT VII CORPS					
Medical Off	THEODORE S WRIGHT	Capt	0500245	MC	AUS
Dental Off	RUDOLPH J FALKIN	Capt	01639861	DC	AUS
Medical Off	(5)LUTHER R LEWIS	Capt	01696250	MC	AUS
Medical Off	(5)WILLIAM A BENDER	Capt	01695377	MC	AUS

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
1 Nov 1944 continued

1ST FLAT 506th QM CAR Co

COMMANDING OFFICER	OLIVER P DAVIS	1st Lt	01581650	QMC	AUS
DUTY UNANNOUNCED	(2)OWEN H CARTER	Maj	0334313	Inf	RES
	(2)FRANK P ERESCH	Maj	0467963	JAGD	AUS
	VERNON W WHITE (DS)	Capt	0330831	Sig C	RES
	(2)WILLIAM G PHILPS	Capt	0436838	Cav	RES
	(2)PIERRE PREVSS (Fr)	Capt			
	(2)HARRY D COUDRON	1st Lt	01315400	Inf	AUS
	(2)FRANCIS X DRISCOLL	1st Lt	0420039	Inf	RES
	(2)GEORGE W HART	1st Lt	01168275	FA	AUS
	(2)DAVID E DAVIS	2d Lt	01306561	Inf	AUS
	(2)FRED L HADSEL	2d Lt	01799040	CIP	AUS
AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR		CHARLES C BROADDUS			
AMERICAN RED CROSS CLUBMOBILE UNIT "D"					
GROUP CAPTAIN		HOPE J SIMPSON			
Asst Group Captain		SUSAN BOYLE			

Note: (1) indicates asgd Hq & Hq Btry VII Corps Arty
(2) indicates atchd to Hq VII Corps
(3) indicates CO 307th APU
(4) indicates asgd to Hq Co VII Corps
(5) indicates atchd to Mod Det VII Corps

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Appendix No. 3

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INIT: mm J
DATE: 9 Nov 44

PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED BY VII CORPS, 1-31 OCT 44

Date	No
1	78
2	70
3	37
4	12
5	8
6	88
7	59
8	76
9	363
10	330
11	330
12	333
13	392
14	294
15	333
16	238
17	327
18	332
19	254
20	266
21	1269
22	712
23	50
24	14
25	21

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26	21
27	13
28	11
29	10
30	6
31	14
	634

VII CORPS CASUALTIES BY UNIT 1-31 OCT 44

Date	1st Inf Div	3rd Armd Div	9th Inf Div	Corps Troops	Total
1	1	25	22	6	54
2	5	9	27	3	44
3	1	6	25	9	41
4	1	8	26	3	38
5	12	15	12	2	41
6	9	5	180	3	197
7	6	7	185	3	201
8	114	6	170	10	300
9	246	9	159	12	426
10	68	6	139	18	231
11	54	12	231	16	313
12	57	13	194	32	296
13	73	10	229	33	345
14	58	14	149	13	234
15	63	9	212	12	296
16	115	0	55	20	190
17	42	15	143	28	228
18	81	7	81	14	183
19	119	13	25	11	168
20	76	31	21	14	142
21	34	14	22	8	78
22	5	19	3	5	32
23	10	7	15	4	36
24	14	8	18	4	44
25	3	9 47 RCT only *	16	9	37
26	22	17	14	8	61
27	12	20	12	5	49
28	17	17	2	3	39
29	19	7	6	12	44
30	2	10	5	7	24
31	3	2	10	11	26
Totals	1342	350	2108	339	4438

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VII CORPS CASULATIES BY TYPE FOR 1-31 OCT 44

te	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTAL
1	5	48	1	0	54
2	9	35	0	0	44
3	3	38	0	0	41
4	2	17	19	0	38
5	7	24	10	0	41
6	4	192	0	1	197
7	17	184	0	0	201
8	39	249	12	0	300
9	43	263	120	0	426
0	12	215	4	0	231
11	26	285	2	0	313
12	34	244	17	1	296
13	31	271	43	0	345
4	41	190	3	0	234
5	34	204	58	0	296
6	29	134	27	0	190
17	50	122	56	0	228
18	20	145	18	0	183
19	9	82	77	0	168
20	26	115	1	0	142
21	18	50	8	2	78
22	8	24	0	0	32
23	8	28	0	0	36
24	7	32	5	0	44
25	4	31	0	2	37
26	13	46	2	0	61
27	10	39	0	0	49
28	12	27	0	0	39
29	12	30	2	0	44
30	7	17	0	0	24
31	8	18	0	0	26
Totals	548	2399	485	6	4438

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Appendix No 1

HISTORY OF VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY, FROM 1 - 30, NOVEMBER, 1944 DURING OPERATIONS IN WESTERN GERMANY

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1 NOVEMBER 1944

Active defense of the Corps zone was maintained and front line units were rotated. Enemy activity was limited to defense and improvement of positions, with an occasional small patrol operating along the front lines. Enemy vehicular activity in the STOLBERG (K-9342) - [illegible] (K-9842) area, which took place during the previous period, ceased. The weather continued cool and observation was restricted by very limited visibility.

3rd Armored Division (RCT 47 and the 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued defense of positions, rotated front line units, and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Continued defense of positions, rotated front line units, and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division

The 2nd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, relieved the 1st Battalion in positions at K-947431 - K-952429 - K-961429. Relief was completed at 1600 hours and the 1st Battalion moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of [illegible] (K-9337). There was no change in the sector held by Combat Command Hickey. Defense of road blocks in the vicinity of [illegible] (K-9740) was continued by the Division Reserve, and the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued to patrol to the rear of the road blocks manned by the 294th Engineers and maintain contact with all road blocks.

1st Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, the 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry, relieved the 1st Battalion with Companies I, L and K replacing Companies B, C, and A, respectively, at positions from K-930430 - K-921426. In the center of the Division front the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 26th Infantry, continued to hold defensive positions without change. Patrols were active to maintain enemy contact. North of NAAREN (K-8645), the 18th Infantry continued to patrol and improve defensive positions. The period was comparatively quiet and the only change in the disposition of troops was the relief of the 2nd Battalion at positions (K-871461 - K-864468) by the 1st Battalion at 2100 hours.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 146 missions as follows: 52 harassing, 24 counterbattery, 6 mortar and machine gun, 2 personnel, 2 rocket, and 23 miscellaneous. In addition 37 missions were fired as part of the diversionary demonstration to assist the V Corps attack. Total rounds expended were 2027.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 64 missions as follows: 35 counterbattery, 13 harassing, 11 personnel, 4 registration, and 1 machine gun nest. Rounds expended: 2225.

Corps: Coordinated the fires of the artillery with the Corps in support of the V Corps attack. A total of 33 counterbattery missions were fired by the 3rd Armd Div Arty, VII Corps Artillery, and the 32nd Field Artillery Brigade, an expenditure of 1700 rounds. Other missions fired by the Corps Artillery included 31 counterbattery, 7 registration, 3 personnel, 2 strong point, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1787.

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1 November

The 180th FA Gp fired the following missions in support of the V Corps: 29 preparation, 9 counterbattery, and 3 miscellaneous, expending 805 rounds. (Artillery reports cover period from 1200 to 1200).

Antiaircraft: Between 2028 and 2034, 3 enemy aircraft were engaged by the 106th AAA Gp Bn; no claims were made by any unit.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn fired 16 rounds of 3" AP and 14 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, and 192 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn expended 395 rounds of 90mm HE on targets in the vicinity of BRONWEILER (R-9447).

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 11.

2 NOVEMBER 1944

Corps artillery supported the V Corps attack with a 45 minute preparation. An artillery demonstration was made by the 1st Infantry Division early in the period and later strong combat patrols were sent out by all regiments to supply diversionary action for the V Corps attack.

At 0600 when a slight forward movement was made by the 1st Division northeast of HAAREN (R-9645), heavy machine gun, morter, and artillery fire was encountered. Upon cessation of that small demonstration, the enemy remained relatively inactive in the 1st Division zone. Enemy patrolling and vehicular activity were negligible. In the STOLBERG (R-9342) - KROSSWITCH (R-9842) area enemy tracked vehicles were heard moving southwest from the vicinity of WERTH (R-9743) at 2110. The movement ceased when brought under artillery fire.

3rd Armored Division (RCT 47 and the 234th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued defense of positions, rotated front line units, and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Made diversionary demonstrations to assist the attack of the V Corps, and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division

In the zone of Combat Command Hickey, the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, replaced the 1st Battalion, 32nd Armored, in the line at R-932431 - R-935433 - R-941429. Relief was completed at 1400 hours and the 1st Battalion moved to the vicinity of R-939417. There was no change in the disposition or location of other units.

1st Infantry Division

On the Division right flank, the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 16th Infantry, conducted active patrols to maintain enemy contact. Positions were further consolidated and held without loss of ground. In the center zone, the 26th Infantry continued local advances to improve its positions. Pillboxes were engaged in front of Company C, and a few houses to the front of the 3rd Battalion were cleared of enemy. North of HAAREN, the 18th Infantry maintained patrol contact with the enemy. All three regiments participated in the diversion demonstration in support of the V Corps attack.

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2 November

Artillery

1st Division: Fired the following missions during the period: 18 personnel, 2 tank, 19 counterbattery, 48 harassing, 5 interdiction, 6 mortar and machine gun, and 21 miscellaneous - a total of 119 missions and an expenditure of 1420 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 82 missions as follows: 16 personnel, 4 vehicle, 2 tank, 30 counterbattery, 10 harassing, 6 mortar and machine gun, and 22 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2677.

Corps: Fired 31 counterbattery, 5 miscellaneous, 2 tank, 1 vehicle, and 1 personnel, expending 730 rounds. Heavy concentrations were placed on all enemy batteries which were located with any degree of accuracy. In one case 2 battalions of 155 guns (240th and 980th FA Bns) 2 battalions of 155 howitzers (183rd and 751st FA Bns), and 1 battalion of 8" howitzers (195th FA Bn) fired a TOT on an enemy battery expending a total of 101 rounds.

An 84th FA Bn (9th Inf Div) forward observer adjusted the 195th FA Bn (8" H) on a building containing an enemy CP. The observer reported 6 hits out of 19 rounds. The range was 8000 yards.

188th FA Gp supported the V Corps attack with 24 counterbattery, 10 harassing, 2 interdiction, and 2 miscellaneous missions, expending 482 rounds.

Btry B, 991st FA Bn (155 GT, SP) was directed to destroy a large concrete tower being used as an enemy OP. The tower, which had withstood previous attempts to destroy it, was located at P-006445. The gun was worked forward through the dense woods to within 3700 yards of the tower. The 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, cut a narrow fire lane through the woods; and, as only the upper half of the tower could be seen from the gun position, two OPs were used to facilitate adjustment. Adjustment was made with fuze quick and the fifth round, which hit the tower, merely flaked off some pieces. The next three rounds, fuzed with CP T-105, caused the upper 2/3rds of the tower to collapse. To complete the destruction of the tower six more rounds were fired.

The enemy answered with mortar fire 12 minutes after the first round was fired and followed it with artillery fire. However, due to the excellent concealment of the gun, the enemy fire was searching in nature and never came closer to the piece than 150 yards.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn expended 192 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn expended 493 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on harassing and counterbattery missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 15.

3 NOVEMBER 1944

Corps troops continued to hold all defensive positions and maintain enemy contact by patrolling. Artillery activity was largely confined to harassing and counterbattery missions. The weather remained cool with improved visibility.

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3 November

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Enemy forces occupying fortifications in the QUINX (K-8845) area strongly resisted with small arms and mortar fire the attempt of the 1st Division to improve its positions in the vicinity. Two enemy strong points - a pillbox (K-875462) and a barracks (K-869468) - engaged our patrols in fire fights during the period. Enemy small arms, machine gun, and mortar fire was encountered by the 3rd Armored Division while emplacing a road block northwest of HURTGEN (F-0435).

3rd Armored Division (RCT 47 and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued to defend positions and patrolled.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to defend positions and patrolled.

3rd Armored Division

All units of the Division continued to hold the same positions with no change in mission. In addition to the 5 road blocks held by the 294th Engineers, a force from that Battalion moved out at 0815 hours to establish a road block at F-015363. Just beyond the road block at F-010366 the force was pinned down by enemy machine gun, rifle, mortar, and artillery fire. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion was ordered to move a force to clean out resistance in the vicinity of the site for the proposed road block. A force consisting of 5 platoons from the Reconnaissance Battalion and 1 platoon of Engineers moved out at 1300 hours to accomplish this mission. Progress was slow due to an increase in enemy fire. The attacking force was ordered to dig in for the night at dark and resume operations in the morning. The front line of the force at dark was F-011363 - F-013364 - F-012364 - F-011363.

1st Infantry Division

All three regiments of the Division maintained contact with the enemy by patrolling. In the central sector, the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, was unable to clean out the houses to its front along the QUINX Road with the use of only a platoon. The Regiment deemed it not worthwhile to employ a larger force, and the same positions were maintained. Aggressive patrolling was resumed to probe the enemy's positions and prevent him from probing our lines.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 96 missions as follows: 8 personnel, 3 vehicle, 1 tank, 5 counterbattery, 42 harassing, 9 interdiction, 2 mortar, and 15 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1141. The Division Artillery reported the 24 hour period the most quiet since arrival in the sector.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 19 personnel, 2 vehicle, 13 counterbattery, 14 harassing, 2 mortar and machine gun, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1789.

Corps (Including 180th FA Gp): Fired 31 counterbattery, 32 harassing, 4 personnel, and 10 miscellaneous missions, an expenditure of 1117 rounds.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn fired 10 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire, and 10 rounds of 3" AP at 3 enemy pillboxes. 102 rounds were also expended on

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3 November

indirect fire harassing missions. The 703rd ID Bn fired 421 rounds of 90mm HE on indirect fire harassing missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 6.

4 NOVEMBER 1944

Throughout the Corps zone there was little activity during the period. Our units continued to hold defensive positions and patrol. In the VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) - STOLBERG (K-9342) area, enemy activity was negligible with only an occasional patrol making an appearance along the front lines. Light vehicular traffic was observed between VORWEIDEN (K-8948) and ESCHWEILER (K-9647). Several small groups of enemy infantry, ranging in size from a squad to a platoon, were observed in the vicinity of GRESSENICH (K-9842). Ineffective scattered small arms fire was reported 500 yards northeast of [illegible] (K-9841) at 1550.

Six groups of medium bombers (B-26s) hit targets in the [illegible] (K-9449), ROSE (K-9448) and Western ESCHWEILER (K-9746) areas on planned missions for the Corps. Results were reported excellent.

3rd Armored Division (HOT 47 and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued to hold defensive positions and active patrolling.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to hold defensive positions and active patrolling.

3rd Armored Division

The five platoons from the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion improved their positions and dug-in in the vicinity of F-013364, just west of the proposed site for the new road block (F-015363). Enemy activity consisted of light artillery and mortar fire throughout the period and between 2230 and 2245 hours enemy planes dropped bombs in the area. There was no change among the other units of the Division.

1st Infantry Division

In the part of the Corps front held by the Division, the only change was the relief of the 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry, by the 2nd Battalion in positions, northeast of HAAREN (K-8645) at K-882457 - K-871461 with Company E at K-872453. The 3rd Battalion moved to K-867455. All other units continued to hold defensive positions and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 12 personnel, 1 vehicle, 14 counterbattery, 53 harassing, 2 machine gun and mortar, and 23 miscellaneous rounds, an expenditure of 1755 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 11 personnel, 3 vehicle, 5 counterbattery, 17 harassing, 5 machine gun and mortar, and 18 miscellaneous missions. Rounds expended: 2099.

Corps (Including 188th FA Gp): Fired 2 personnel, 1 vehicle, 35 counterbattery, 31 harassing, and 22 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1596.

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4 November

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn engaged a FW-190 at 1805 and destroyed it. An unidentified enemy aircraft was engaged at 1807 hours without claim. The 103rd, 147th, 438th, and 440th AAA AW Bns all fired predicted concentrations at an unidentified enemy aircraft at 1805 hours, and according to the 109th AAA Gp it was destroyed. There was no other activity reported for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn fired 33 rounds of 3" HE, and 13 rounds of APC direct fire at 2 enemy pillboxes. 192 rounds were expended on indirect fire harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn fired 207 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of BISCHWILLER.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 1.

5 NOVEMBER 1944

Physical contact with the enemy was slight as Corps units held defensive positions and conducted patrolling. Both enemy movement and artillery fire were very light. Out of 530 missions fired by our artillery 206 missions were counterbattery and harassing. Although the weather remained cool, visibility was better than for several days, but no planned missions were executed for the Corps by the Air Force.

3rd Armored Division (CCT 47, and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Maintained defensive positions and patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Maintained defensive positions and patrol contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division

There was no change in the disposition of Combat Commands Boudinot, Hickey or the Reserve. The 294th Engineer Battalion continued to hold 5 road blocks while the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion held the road block in the vicinity of S-013304. There was no change in the location or mission of the 47th Infantry.

1st Infantry Division

All units of the Division continued to carry out their defensive mission and routine patrolling. There was very light enemy contact. All positions along the Division front from the vicinity of STOLBERG (H-9542) to the north of HAMM (H-9849) were defended. Enemy activity was negligible.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 115 missions as follows: 21 personnel, 2 vehicle, 1 tank, 12 counterbattery, 49 harassing, 3 machine gun and mortar, and 27 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1574.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 101 missions as follows: 33 personnel, 2 vehicle, 2 mortar and machine gun, 14 counterbattery, 30 harassing, and 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3630.

Corps: Fired 63 missions as follows: 9 personnel, 8 vehicle, 24 counter-

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battery, 19 harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1546.

The 188th Field Artillery Group supporting the V Corps fired 96 missions as follows: 49 counterbattery, 29 tank, 5 personnel, 9 harassing, 2 vehicle, and 2 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1447.

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn engaged a single enemy aircraft at 1904 hours and claimed it was probably destroyed. A single enemy craft was also engaged at 0242 and an undetermined number of planes between 2227 and 2244 hours without claims. The three automatic weapons battalions - 438th, 440th, and 474th also participated in firing predicted AW concentrations at unidentified aircraft at 2235 and 2245 hours.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn fired 205 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn expended 651 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647).

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 4.

6 NOVEMBER 1944

After a number of days of relative inactivity during which operations of the Corps had been limited to patrolling and the defense of positions, preparations were begun for the next offensive operation of the campaign. The Antiaircraft, Tank, Tank Destroyer Battalions, and Reconnaissance Troop of the 104th Infantry Division, which had been engaged in the MAAS River fighting in Holland for the past two weeks, arrived in an assembly area in the VII Corps area southeast of AACHEN (K-8443). Although the 104th Division, commanded by Maj Gen Terry Allen, had seen some action in the northern fighting, it was a comparatively inexperienced division, having arrived in France, directly from the United States, in September.

During the period, heavy small arms, machine gun and mortar fire was encountered by our patrols probing enemy outpost lines in the VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) - STOLBERG (K-9342) zones early in the morning. Afterwards the enemy became relatively inactive in the 1st Division zone until 2200 when moderate small arms and mortar fire fell one mile west of MUNSTERBUSCH (K-9242). Scattered enemy vehicular traffic was observed throughout the day on the VORWEIDEN (K-8949) - ESCHWEILER (K-9647) highway. Small groups of enemy infantry were noted in the GRESSENICH (K-9842) area. At 1430 patrols from the 47th Infantry drew mortar fire northeast of SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) and encountered barbed wire entanglements.

A group of IX Tactical Air Command fighter-bombers hit a supply installation northeast of DUREN at F-160550 on a request mission for the Corps. Results were reported excellent with six hits observed and the installation blown up. Two large explosions occurred and fires were started.

3rd Armored Division (47th RCT and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, Attached): Held defensive positions and patrolled.

1st Infantry Division: Held defensive positions and patrolled.

3rd Armored Division

There was no change in the disposition of Combat Command Boudinot or Hickey

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6 November SECRET

as all defensive positions were held and light enemy contact was maintained by patrolling. The Division reserve held road blocks in the vicinity of HAUSBACH (K-9741). The 294th Engineer Battalion continued to hold 5 road blocks and the 93rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion held another road block at K-013364. There was no change in the 47th Infantry.

1st Infantry Division

All positions from the vicinity of STOLBERG (K-9342) to the north of HAAREN (K-8645) were held along the front line of the Division without change. Units conducted active patrolling without incident.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 14 personnel, 7 vehicle, 1 tank, 10 counterbattery, 39 harassing, 3 machine gun and mortar, and 17 miscellaneous missions, expending 1363 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 15 personnel, 3 vehicle, 5 counterbattery, 13 harassing, 8 mortar and machine gun, and 26 miscellaneous missions, expending 1481 rounds.

Corps: Fired 9 personnel, 1 vehicle, 1 tank, 42 counterbattery, 16 harassing, 2 mortar and machine gun, and 4 miscellaneous, expending a total of 1082 rounds.

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn reported no action against enemy aircraft. Btry D fired interdiction missions on 19 concentrations for the VII Corps Artillery. The rate of fire was 7 rounds per minute per gun from 1500 to 1800 hours. The fire was unobserved and 397 rounds were expended. No action was reported by the automatic weapons battalions for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: 634th TD Bn fired 192 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn fired 482 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of [illegible].

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 5.

7 NOVEMBER 1944

The 1st Infantry and 3rd Armored Divisions continued to hold defensive positions and maintained enemy contact by patrolling. Elements of the 1st and 104th Infantry Divisions continued to arrive in the Corps zone.

Except for light, harassing fire on forward elements of the Corps, the enemy remained inactive. Light administrative traffic was observed during the day between [illegible] and [illegible]. High velocity artillery fire from tanks or self-propelled guns in the vicinity of [illegible] was reported falling south of [illegible].

There was an estimated 6000 enemy troops on the Corps front, including the 3rd Panzer Grenadier, 12th and 272th Infantry Divisions and several miscellaneous units. Another 6500 enemy were estimated to be in immediate reserve. These reserve units include the uncommitted portions of the above Divisions

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plus some 2000 miscellaneous troops. G-2 estimated that 31,000 general reserves could be employed in the VII Corps zone.

3rd Armored Division (27th Regimental Combat Team and 294th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Held defensive positions and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Held defensive positions and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division

The Division held defensive positions and conducted routine patrolling. In the sector held by Combat Command Hickey the 1st Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, relieved the 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment at K-939417, and the relieved unit moved to K-944384. There was no change in the disposition of Combat Command Boudinot. Road blocks in the vicinity of MAUSBACH (K-9741) were maintained by the Division Reserve. Five other road blocks were maintained by the 294th Engineer Battalion and one road block at F-013364 by the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion.

1st Infantry Division

Positions along the Division front from the western edge of STOLBERG (K-9342) to the north of HAAREN (K-8645) were held and consolidated as the various units maintained light patrol contact with the enemy. The 3rd Battalion of the 18th Infantry which had been in Regimental Reserve at K-867455, relieved the 3rd Battalion of the 26th Infantry, with lettered companies of the former relieving like lettered companies of latter in positions in the center of the Division zone at K-891449 - K-882457. Relief was completed at 2300 hours and the 3rd Battalion of the 26th Infantry moved to K-867455. The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, was attached to the 26th Infantry.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 68 missions as follows: 4 personnel, 3 vehicle, 1 counterbattery, 47 harassing, 7 mortar and machine gun, and 6 miscellaneous, expending 966 rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 68 missions as follows: 12 personnel, 2 vehicle, 11 counterbattery, 22 harassing, 1 mortar and machine gun, and 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1313.

Corps: (Including 188th FA Gp supporting V Corps), Fired 55 missions as follows: 7 personnel, 10 tank, 34 counterbattery, 10 harassing, and 4 miscellaneous, expending 651 rounds.

Antiaircraft: A flight of four enemy aircraft entered the area between 1213 and 1220 and split up, making violent evasive action upon being engaged by automatic weapons battalions of the 109th AAA Gp. Three of the enemy planes were destroyed and the fourth probably destroyed. One enemy plane plane was claimed by each of the 447th, 449th, and 438th AAA AW Bns, while the 447th also claimed a "Cat II". The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn was not engaged during the 24 hour period ending at 070600.

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Tank Destroyers: [illegible] TD Bn fired 192 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 703rd TD Bn expended 759 rounds of 90mm HE on targets in the vicinity of [illegible] (K-7647).

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 1.

8 NOVEMBER 1944

The 4th and 104th Infantry Divisions were attached to VII Corps. Relief of the 1st Infantry Division was begun by the 104th Infantry Division when the 413th Infantry Regiment moved into the central sector of the line, replacing units of the 16th and 26th Infantry Regiments. Some troops of the 4th Infantry Division were enroute to their new assembly area while others had already reached the vicinity of ZWEIFALL (K-9538).

Enemy activity along the Corps front was restricted to light, scattered artillery fire, much of which was from 75 and 88mm self-propelled guns. Probing efforts by our patrols were met by mortar, bazooka and small arms fire, and mines and booby traps were encountered in front of enemy positions. Flares were found attached to trip wires and heavy mortar fire followed the discharge of the flares.

4th Infantry Division (less 12th Regimental Combat Team): The 22nd Infantry crossed the R at 2200 and was enroute to the new assembly area in the vicinity of K-985345. The 8th Infantry closed in the assembly area in the vicinity of K-955376.

3rd Armored Division (47th Regimental Combat Team and 254th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued to defend positions, rotate units, and maintain patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: The 16th Infantry, less the 1st Battalion, and the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, were relieved in the line by the 413th Infantry, 104th Infantry Division. The 26th Infantry, less the 1st Battalion, closed in a new assembly area.

104th Infantry Division: The 414th RCT, less 2nd Battalion, closed in an assembly area south of AACHEN at K-812377. The 415th Infantry relieved elements of the 1st Division in the line, and the 413th Infantry was preparing to relieve the remainder of the 1st Division.

4th Infantry Division

The 8th Infantry closed in the assembly area in the vicinity of ZWEIFALL (K-9538) at 0730, and the 22nd Infantry was enroute to the assembly area.

3rd Armored Division

In the sector held by Combat Command Boudinot the 1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, relieved the 2nd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment in the line at K-947931 - K-952429 - K-961429 - K-972423. The 2nd Battalion moved to K-928379. There was no change in the disposition of Combat Command Hickey, the Division Reserve, or in the attached 474th Infantry. The 254th Engineer relieved elements of the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion manning a road block at F-013364 at 1515 hours. The Reconnaissance Battalion moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of K-967387.

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1st Infantry Division

The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry and the attached 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, were relieved in the line by the 415th Infantry elements, and remaining units of the 16th Infantry were to be relieved during the night. The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of BRAND (K-8940). Plans were made for the relief of the 18th Infantry in positions north of HAAREN (K-8645) by a RCT of the 104th Division. At 0600 the 26th Infantry, less the 1st Battalion, moved to an assembly area at K-9639.

104th Infantry Division

The 415th Infantry moved into the line and relieved elements of the 1st Infantry Division with the 1st Battalion at K-900437 to K-891449, the 2nd Battalion at K-921426 to K-900437, and the 3rd Battalion at K-921426 to K-930430. The 414th Infantry closed in an assembly area at K-825385 at 0600 except for the 2nd Battalion which was enroute. The 413th Infantry was in an assembly area at K-815405, preparing to relieve the remaining units of the 1st Infantry north of HAAREN.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 72 missions as follows: 7 personnel, 5 counterbattery, 48 harassing, 7 mortar and machine gun, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1076.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 96 missions as follows: 17 personnel, 5 vehicle, 25 counterbattery, 30 harassing, 5 mortar and machine gun, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1679.

4th Division: No missions fired.

104th Division: The Division artillery occupied positions vacated by the 1st Div Arty. Missions fired by the 104th Div Arty were handled by the 1st Div Arty FDC and are included under the 1st Div Arty.

Corps: Fired 84 missions as follows: 9 personnel, 2 vehicle, 2 tank, 51 counterbattery, 7 harassing, 2 mortar and machine gun, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1125.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 6.

9 NOVEMBER 1944

Regrouping of units continued as the Corps planned for the next offensive operation of the campaign. Combat Command R of the 5th Armored Division was attached to the Corps at 1600, and at 1900 a new temporary boundary between the VII and V Corps was put into effect. It was along the general line EUPEN (K-7927) - ROTT (K-9232) - south of ZWEIFALL (K-9536) through the WENAU FOREST to K-978362 and F-025425.

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At 1530 two patrols attempted to probe the enemy defenses in STOLBERG (K-9342). The patrol that moved into the left section of the city met heavy small arms fire and found concertina wire, teller mines and booby traps in the streets. Heavy enemy grenade fire was also encountered. The patrol in the right section of the city was able to advance several hundred yards along the streets before drawing enemy mortar fire. The patrol was forced to split up and work its way back to our lines. Small arms and grenade fire was received from enemy positions in houses. Except for scattered artillery fire and vigorous maintenance of defensive positions, the enemy remained inactive. Poor visibility due to the snow made observation of the enemy virtually impossible.

4th Infantry Division (Less 12th Regimental Combat Team): The 22nd Infantry arrived from V Corps area and moved into the assembly area east of ZWEIFALL (K-9536).

3rd Armored Division (47th Regimental Combat Team and 298th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Held defensive positions, continued to rotate front line units and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

1st Infantry Division: Continued regrouping and movement to new area as units were relieved in the line by the 104th Infantry Division. The 18th Infantry was being relieved by the 413th Infantry.

104th Infantry Division: The 413th Infantry began moving into the line in the vicinity of HAAREN (K-8645), relieving the 18th Infantry. The 415th Infantry held defensive positions formerly occupied by the 1st Division, west of STOLBERG (K-9342) to K-891449.

4th Infantry Division

The 22nd Infantry closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of ZWEIFALL at 0930 hours. The 8th Infantry remained in an assembly area in the same vicinity. Reconnaissance was conducted in the area of contemplated operations west of the front lines.

3rd Armored Division

There was no change in the disposition of Combat Command Hickey. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion relieved the 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, Combat Command Boudinot, in positions at K-947431 - K-952429 - K-961427 K-972423 - K-971417 at 1720 hours. The relieved unit moved to K-938417. Company B, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment (Division Reserve) moved to K-985355 at 1430 hours to reinforce the 298th Engineers, which had relieved the 294th Engineer Combat Battalion at F-009356 - F-010390, and took over the road blocks previously held by the 294th Engineers. There was no change in the disposition of the attached 47th Infantry.

1st Infantry Division

Relief of the 18th Infantry by the 413th Infantry in positions in the vicinity of HAAREN was begun at 1730 hours and was being continued at the close of the period. The 1st and 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry, which had been relieved by the 415th Infantry, moved to temporary assembly areas in the STAATS FOREST at K-983405 and K-953387, respectively. The 26th Infantry which had also been relieved in the line by the 415th Infantry, closed in new assembly areas with the 1st Battalion at K-989388, the 2nd Battalion at K-995395, and the 3rd Battalion at K-976380.

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104th Infantry Division

By 0300 hours relief of 1st Division units by the 415th Infantry had been completed with the 1st Battalion holding positions from K-890448 to K-890440, the 2nd Battalion from K-900437 to K-918427, and the 3rd Battalion from K-920426 to K-932430. At 1730 hours the 413th Infantry started relief of the 1st Division units in the vicinity of HAAREN. The 1st battalion held positions from K-864407 to K-870462, the 2nd Battalion from K-872402 to K-878457, and the 3rd Battalion from K-880457 to K-889450. The 2nd Battalion, 414th Infantry closed in the assembly area with the rest of the regiment at K-825785.

Artillery

The 1st and 4th Infantry Division Artilleries were silent during the period.

104th Div Arty: Fired 53 missions as follows: 4 counterbattery, 8 personnel, 1 vehicle, 30 harassing and interdiction, 1 machine gun and mortar, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 777.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 53 missions as follows: 4 counterbattery, 9 personnel, 1 vehicle, 20 harassing and interdiction, ½ mortar and machine gun, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1340.

Corps: Fired 38 missions as follows: 11 counterbattery, 1 personnel, 16 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 343.

32nd Field Artillery Brigade fired 2 counterbattery, 2 personnel, 1 interdiction and harassing mission, expending 38 rounds.

A forward observer of the 391st FA Bn (3rd Armd Div) adjusted the 75lst FA Bn on a house used as an enemy OP. The observer reported 5 target hits in 21 rounds. The gun range was 6830 yards.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 090600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 703rd TD Bn expended 243 rounds of 90mm MC on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647).

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 4.

10 NOVEMBER 1944

Units of the VII Corps completed regrouping for the next offensive operation and maintained an active defense of the Corps zone throughout the period. Enemy movement was seen and tracked vehicles heard in GRESSENICH (K-9840) and light enemy traffic was noted in STOLBERG (K-9342). Light vehicular traffic was also observed along the VORWEIDEN (K-9049) - ESCHWEILER (K-9647) road. Beginning at 1800 hours an increase in enemy activity, including the movement of tracked vehicles, was heard in the vicinity of HURTGEN (F-0135). Our patrols met machine gun fire from pillboxes northeast of HAAREN (K-8415) and north and east of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8045). West of STOLBERG many white flares were observed from 1800 hours to the end of the period. In the vicinity of GRESSENICH enemy wire and new defensive positions were found by our patrols.

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4th Infantry Division: The 12th Infantry was relieved from attachment to the 28th Infantry Division (V Corps) and reverted to Division control. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion was relieved from attachment to the 3rd Armored Division and attached to the 4th Division, and the Division assumed responsibility for the sector held by the Engineers. The 8th and 12th Infantry Regiments remained in assembly areas.

1st Infantry Division: Relief of the Division was completed by the 104th Infantry Division at 0600. The move to new assembly areas to the left of the 4th Division was completed and the Division prepared for coming operations. The 47th Infantry was attached to the Division.

3rd Armored Division: The 47th Infantry Regiment and the 23rd Engineer Combat Battalion were detached from the Division. Defense of positions and patrolling were continued.

104th Infantry Division: Completed relief of the 1st Infantry Division on the left flank of the Corps zone. Positions were consolidated and active defense of the sector maintained.

Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division: Assembled in the vicinity of K-8602, prepared to move to the VII Corps area.

4th Infantry Division

On the extreme right flank of the Corps, the 12th Infantry Regiment reverted to 4th Division control in place at 1900 hours. Both the 22nd and 8th Infantry Regiments remained in place, and all units conducted reconnaissance and preparations for the projected attack to the northeast. Effective at 1200 the Division was charged with the responsibility for the security of the area between engineer road blocks at F-013384 and F-011390, both inclusive. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion was attached to the Division.

1st Infantry Division

Relief of the 16th Infantry was completed by the 104th Division early in the morning and motor movement of the 16th Infantry from the vicinity of AACHEN (F-8403) to the new assembly area was started at 0800 hours. By 1100 the Regimental CP was at K-933365. At 1210 the 1st Battalion was in the vicinity of K-947360, the 2nd Battalion at K-947357, and the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of K-933355. The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry closed in the new assembly area at K-950375. The rest of the Combat Team remained in temporary assembly area (1st Battalion at K-984402 and the 3rd Battalion at K-956382) prepared to attack. The 26th Infantry likewise remained in assembly area to the rear of the attached 47th Infantry on the Division right flank. Location of units was as follows: 1st Battalion at K-987387, 2nd Battalion at K-994395, and the 3rd Battalion at K-980382. The 47th Infantry held the following positions: 2nd Battalion from F-017403 to F-010417 with Company E at K-993387, the 3rd Battalion: F-009420 - F-009424 - F-002427 - K-998420, and the 1st Battalion F-000419 - K-992412 with Company C at K-985412.

After being relieved in the AACHEN sector by the 104th Infantry Division, the 1st Infantry Division became responsible at 1200 hours for the security of the area between Engineer road block (F-011390) and LAUSBACH (K-9740), both exclusive.

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3rd Armored Division

There was no change in the disposition of either Combat Command Boudinot or Hickey during the period. Both Commands continued to maintain enemy contact by patrolling. The 47th Regimental Combat Team was detached from the Division as was the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion. Company B, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, which was attached to the 298th Engineer Battalion reverted to Regimental control and closed in the Division Reserve area at 1355 hours in the vicinity of K-970409. Effective at 1200 hours the Division was relieved of the responsibility for the security of the area east of HAUSBACH.

104th Infantry Division

The 104th Infantry Division completed the relief of the 1st Infantry Division and completely took over the left flank sector of the Corps zone from the edge of STOLBERG to the north of HAAREN (K-8645) when like numbered battalions of the 18th Infantry were relieved by those of the 413th Infantry. Front line positions were held by the 415th and 413th Infantry Regiments from right to left with the 414th Infantry in reserve. Effective at 1000 hours the 1st Battalion, 415th Infantry, was attached to the 414th Infantry. Location of units at the close of the period was as follows: 415th Infantry, 3rd Battalion at K-932430 to K-920426, 2nd Battalion at K-918427 to K-900437, 413th Infantry, 3rd Battalion at K-889459 - K-880457, 2nd Battalion at K-878457 - K-872462, and the 1st Battalion at K-870462 - K-865467. The 1st Battalion, 415th Infantry, was at K-930440 - K-930448, Units of the 414th Infantry remained Southwest of AACHEN.

Artillery

4th Division: Fired 31 missions as follows: 8 counterbattery, 2 personnel, 8 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous, expending 2566 rounds.

1st Division: Division artillery was silent during the period.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 45 missions as follows: 16 counterbattery, 6 personnel, 3 vehicle, 8 interdiction and harassing, 4 machine gun and mortar, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1926.

104th Division: Fired 33 missions as follows: 3 counterbattery, 2 personnel, 18 interdiction and harassing, 3 mortar and machine gun, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 804.

Corps: Fired 22 missions as follows: 12 counterbattery, 1 personnel, 1 vehicle, 5 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 270.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 10 missions as follows: 10 counterbattery, 12 tank, 13 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 135.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 703rd TD Bn fired 500 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of EICHWEILER.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 38.

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11 NOVEMBER 1944

Enemy infiltration on the right flank of the Corps succeeded in isolating two companies of the 12th Infantry, 4th Division. Elsewhere along the Corps front defense of positions was continued and patrol contact maintained with the enemy while units awaited favorable weather to attack. Combat Command R of the 5th Armored Division moved into the Corps area and closed in assembly in the vicinity of WALHORN (K-8032). The 4th Cavalry Group reverted to Corps control upon relief by the 102nd Cavalry Group at 1320 hours and assembled in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334).

During the period the enemy, armed almost exclusively with automatic weapons, made three attempts to penetrate the front of the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, and succeeded in isolating Companies F and G, southwest of HURTGEN (K-[illegible]). Enemy artillery fire was very heavy on forward elements of the 4th Division, west of Hurtgen, throughout the day with concentrations of up to 40 rounds reported. This fire ranged from 75 to 170mm. Heavy interdiction fire was also reported on the road junction at F-013334. Elsewhere on the Corps front enemy artillery fire varied from moderate to light with an estimated 350 rounds of artillery and mortar fire falling south and southwest of GRESSENICH (K-9842) during the period. At 2215 hours 12 rounds of 105mm artillery fire fell northeast of HAAREN (K-8645) and 10 rounds of white phosphorus mortar fire fell north of RAVELSBURG (K-8646).

In the vicinity of GRESSENICH light enemy movement was heard at the close of the period and sporadic small arms fire came from the vicinity of BUSCHHAUSEN (K-9841) during the day. Light vehicular movement was heard in the vicinity of STOLBERG (K-9342) during the morning. Elsewhere along the Corps front the enemy confined his activity to light mortar and artillery fire.

4th Infantry Division (298th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): Continued to defend positions. The 12th ROT made contact with the 109th Infantry (28th Division) at F-033338. Enemy infiltrated around 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, isolating Companies F and G. Companies G, I, and L were committed to reestablish contact, which was not made at the close of the period. Road blocks were held by the 298th Engineer Battalion. Other units remained in assembly areas.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): The 47th ROT continued active defense of the Division zone. Other units remained in assembly area, prepared to attack.

3rd Armored Division: Continued to defend positions and maintain patrol contact with the enemy.

104th Infantry Division: Regrouped for coming operation and continued to defend positions.

Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division: Closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of WALHORN (K-8032).

4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): Reverted to Corps control upon completion of relief by 102nd Cavalry Group and moved north to Corps zone, assembling in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334).

4th Infantry Division

On the right flank the 12th Infantry [illegible] to improve positions begin-

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ing at 0800 hours and efforts were made to clean enemy resistance in the rear areas of the 2nd Battalion (vicinity of R-825347). Enemy pressure in this area continued throughout the period and after several attempts the Germans succeeded in infiltrating troops which resulted in Companies [illegible] being isolated from the battalion. During the period G, I, and [illegible] Companies were committed in the vicinity to reduce the enemy pockets, but failed to reestablish contact with the two isolated companies and at the end of the period the two companies were still out off from the Battalion. The 1st and 3rd Battalion were to attack the next morning to establish contact with Companies F and G, clean out the enemy pocket of resistance, and occupy positions to the northeast. The 4th Reconnaissance Troop was attached for this operation.

The 8th Infantry remained assembled in the vicinity of R-[illegible] throughout the period and conducted active reconnaissance in the area west of the front lines. The 22nd Infantry also remained assembled (vicinity of R-9933) and reconnoitered in preparation for impending operations in the area west of the front line. The 590th Engineer Battalion continued to hold road blocks and improved positions.

1st Infantry Division

On the right flank the attached 47th Regimental Combat Team continued to occupy front line positions and maintain patrol contact with the enemy. 1st Division units remained in assembly areas prepared to attack.

3rd Armored Division

The 3rd Armored Division continued to defend in its zone and conducted routine patrolling to the front without incident. There was no change in the disposition or location of troops. Enemy activity consisted of artillery and mortar fire throughout the period.

104th Infantry Division

Regrouping was completed with the 1st Battalion, 415th Infantry, being relieved by elements of the 2nd Battalion, 415th Infantry, and 3rd Battalion, 413th Infantry at 0425 hours. The 1st Battalion, 415th Infantry, was attached to the 414th Infantry which was in assembly areas. Location of front line units across the Division sector were as follows: 3rd Battalion, 415th Infantry, R-932430 - R-930426; 2nd Battalion, 415th Infantry, R-919429 - R-[illegible]; 3rd Battalion, 413th Infantry, R-889450 - R-880497; 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry, R-878457 - R-[illegible]; 1st Battalion, 413th Infantry, R-870462 - R-865467. The 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, closed in an intermediate assembly area in the vicinity of R-897972 at 2000 hours, and the 1st Battalion was enroute to an assembly area in the vicinity of R-892384. The attached 1st Battalion of the 415th Infantry closed in a forward assembly area in the vicinity of R-930423. The 2nd Battalion, 414th Infantry remained alerted in its original assembly area at R-825395.

Combat Command B, 5th Armored Division

Combat Command B, which had continued training for the past several days, moved to the vicinity of WALDORF, (R-8032) closing in that area at 1930 hours. The Command remained in the assembly area prepared for future operations.

4th Cavalry Group

The Group was relieved of its defensive mission in the LAUTENBACH (R-9626) -

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MONSCHAU (K-9418) area and moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of EYNATTEN and AACHEN. The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron which was relieved in the LAMMERSDORF sector moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of AACHEN, except for Troops A, B, and C which closed in the vicinity of EYNATTEN. The 759th Light Tank Battalion was relieved in the central sector and proceeded to an assembly area in the vicinity of AACHEN and closed at K-829414 at 1520 hours. The 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion, after being relieved of defense of the ROTGEN (K-9128) area, moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of AACHEN at K-829412. Relief of the 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion was completed and the unit closed in an assembly area between EYNATTEN and RAEREN (K-8532). The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron closed in the vicinity of K-780280.

Artillery

4th Division: Fired 39 missions as follows: 3 counterbattery, 5 personnel, 5 tank, 11 interdiction and harassing, 2 mortar and machine gun, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2136.

1st Division: Division Artillery remained silent.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 49 missions as follows: 17 counterbattery, 11 personnel, 1 tank, 2 interdiction and harassing, 4 machine gun and mortar, 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1547.

104th Division: Fired 1 counterbattery, 12 interdiction and harassing, 1 personnel, and 9 miscellaneous missions, expending 312 rounds.

Corps: Fired 7 counterbattery, 4 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous missions, expending 170 rounds.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 2 tank, 5 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous missions, expending 50 rounds.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 703rd TD Bn fired 255 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647). The 803rd TD Bn expended 4 rounds of 3" HE direct fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 6.

12 NOVEMBER 1944

Several enemy counter-attacks west of HURTGEN (F-0435) were repulsed in the zone of the 12th Infantry, 4th Division, and the 1st Battalion made contact with Companies F and G which had been cut off by enemy infiltration the previous day. However, contact between the 1st Battalion and the adjacent 3rd Battalion to the right was severed. Other units continued to defend positions along the Corps front and maintained patrol contact with the enemy. Unfavorable weather again precluded any large scale offensive being launched.

During the period the enemy made three attempts to penetrate positions of the 12th Infantry Regiment west of HURTGEN. At 0845 hours the first attack made by infantry was repulsed by Companies F and G, although a few of the enemy succeeded in infiltrating through the heavy forest and behind our forward positions. At 1200

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hours a second attack was made by 150 enemy infantry, supported by 6 tanks. This attack was also repulsed and again the enemy was forced to withdraw the bulk of his forces toward [illegible]. A third enemy attack was launched by a company of enemy infantry at 1415 hours in an attempt to build up his forces already behind the forward elements of the 12th Infantry. Some additional infiltration was achieved by the enemy. All three attacks were supported by heavy artillery fire.

Elsewhere along the Corps front the enemy made no aggressive movement during the day, confining his activity to moderate artillery fire. At the close of the period, sounds of enemy digging were heard in SCHLEMS (R-9912).

4th Infantry Division (290th Engineer Combat Battalion, attached): The 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, made contact with Companies F and G which had been isolated the previous day, and although 3 enemy counterattacks were beaten off, contact between the 1st Battalion and the 3rd Battalion was broken by additional enemy infiltrating through the forest west of HUNNANGE and to the rear of forward elements of the 12th Infantry. The 8th and 22nd Infantry Regiments remained in assembly areas.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): The 16th Infantry defended positions and maintained patrol contact with the enemy. Other units remained in assembly areas.

[illegible] Division: Defended positions and maintained patrol contact with the enemy.

[illegible] Infantry Division: Defended positions with no change in the front lines. The 2nd Battalion, 110th Infantry, moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of R-8073.

Combat Command B, 5th Armored Division: Remained in assembly area in the vicinity of R-[illegible].

[illegible] Cavalry Group (Reinforced): Remained in assembly areas and performed [illegible] and reconnaissance.

4th Infantry Division

The 12th [illegible] ordered to improve positions beginning at 1730 hours. Information received [illegible] 1 platoon each of Companies F and G which were cut off before. During the [illegible] Companies [illegible] and I repulsed an enemy infantry [illegible] of the attackers [illegible] withdrew [illegible], a few enemy succeeded in infiltrating through the dense forest and to the rear of forward elements of the Regiment.

After being relieved of road blocks in the vicinity of R-[illegible] at 1200 by the 14th Reconnaissance Troop, the [illegible] Infantry, less Company B, attacked [illegible] to establish contact with [illegible] and G. At [illegible] counter-attacked with tank supported infantry [illegible] artillery fire, but [illegible] successful in making contact with [illegible] artillery fire. [illegible] attached unit, [illegible] and have limited movements, gaining the objective in the vicinity of [illegible] at 1900 hours.

A third attack was launched by the enemy at 1415 hours in an effort to [illegible] by his forces behind forward [illegible] of the Regiment. Although the bulk of his

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forces were driven back toward HURTGEN, some infiltration was achieved, and by 1630 hours he had infantry to the rear of Companies F, G, A, and C. Plans were made and orders issued to withdraw Companies F and G to the vicinity of F-020346 - F-023350 - F-029339 the next morning at 0830 hours. These companies were then to be relieved by the 1st Battalion, which was to hold the line against infiltration, clean out the enemy, and reestablish contact with the 3rd Battalion on its right at F-028347 - F-029339.

The 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, closed in a forward assembly area in the vicinity of F-004403 early in the period. The remainder of the Regiment was in the vicinity of K-[illegible] throughout the period and conducted active reconnaissance in the area west of the front lines. Road blocks were held by the 298th Engineer Battalion at F-009356 - F-010390. The 22nd Infantry remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of K-9935 and reconnoitered for coming operations.

1st Infantry Division

Contact between the 3rd Armored Division road blocks and Company [illegible] maintained by patrols as the 47th Infantry continued to defend front line positions. All other elements of the Division remained in previous assembly areas with no change in positions. Training was conducted while awaiting the order to attack.

3rd Armored Division

There was no change in the disposition or location of units of the Division as all defensive positions were held and light enemy contact maintained by patrolling. Enemy activity consisted of artillery and mortar fire.

104th Infantry Division

There was no change in the front lines. The 2nd Battalion, 414th Infantry moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of K-[illegible], closing in that locality at 1600. The Regimental CP opened at K-931401 at 2000.

Artillery

4th Division: Fired 39 missions as follows: 3 counterbattery, 10 personnel, 11 interdiction and harassing, 2 mortar and machine gun, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 21[illegible]3.

1st Division: Fired [illegible] personnel missions, expending [illegible] rounds.

3rd Armored Division: Fired [illegible] missions as follows: 10 counterbattery, 10 personnel, [illegible] vehicle, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, 3 mortar and machine gun, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible].

104th Division: Fired [illegible] missions as follows: 1 counterbattery, 1 personnel, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, and [illegible] miscellaneous, expending [illegible] rounds.

Corps: Fired [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, [illegible] miscellaneous missions, expending 170 rounds.

[illegible] Division: Fired [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, [illegible] miscellaneous missions, expending [illegible] rounds.

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Antiaircraft: No movies for the [illegible] period ending at [illegible] was [illegible] by the 100th AAA Bn.

Tank Destroyers: The 703rd TD Bn expended [illegible] rounds of [illegible] TD indirect fire on targets in the vicinity of [illegible] ([illegible]).

Prisoners of War [illegible] the Corps: [illegible].

[illegible]

The 12th Infantry, 4th Division, readjusted front line positions, [illegible] sentinel with all units of the Combat Team, and with [illegible] Infantry, 28th Division (7 Corps) on the right. All front line [illegible] positions as [illegible] vented air support for a ground attack.

Following the consolidation of positions by the 12th Infantry, west of [illegible] (F-0[illegible]), the enemy made no further [illegible] infiltrate [illegible] positions, and [illegible] to patrolling. Elsewhere along the Corps front [illegible] patrolling was on a limited scale, and no enemy movement was [illegible] during the period.

4th Infantry Division ([illegible] Engineer Combat Battalion, [illegible]): The 12th Infantry reestablished [illegible] and consolidated positions. The 8th and 22nd Infantry Regiments [illegible] in assembly areas.

1st Infantry Division ([illegible] Combat Team, attached): [illegible] RCT maintained defense of front line positions, while the Division remained in assembly areas.

3rd Armored Division: Continued defense of front line positions.

104th Infantry Division: Continued defense of front line positions.

Combat Command [illegible], 5th Armored Division: Remained in an assembly area.

4th Cavalry Group (Reinforced): Remained in assembly areas and continued rehabilitation and maintenance.

4th Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, beginning at [illegible] hours, [illegible] A, C, F, and G, 12th Infantry, [illegible] isolated from the [illegible] respective battalions, initiated a short withdrawal to reestablish contact and consolidate their positions. By midafternoon, [illegible] harassing artillery and small arms fire, the operation was completed. Contact on company, battalion, and regimental fronts was restored, and positions were organized. Locations of the units after the front line positions were readjusted were as follows: 3rd Battalion, F-029347 - F-029339; 1st Battalion, F-027[illegible] - F-023350; 2nd Battalion, F-023[illegible] - F-020[illegible].

The 298th Engineer Battalion continued to man road blocks in the vicinity of F-00[illegible] - F-010[illegible], and the 8th and 22nd Infantry Regiments remained in assembly areas. Reconnaissance, orientation, and preparation for the projected attack were continued.

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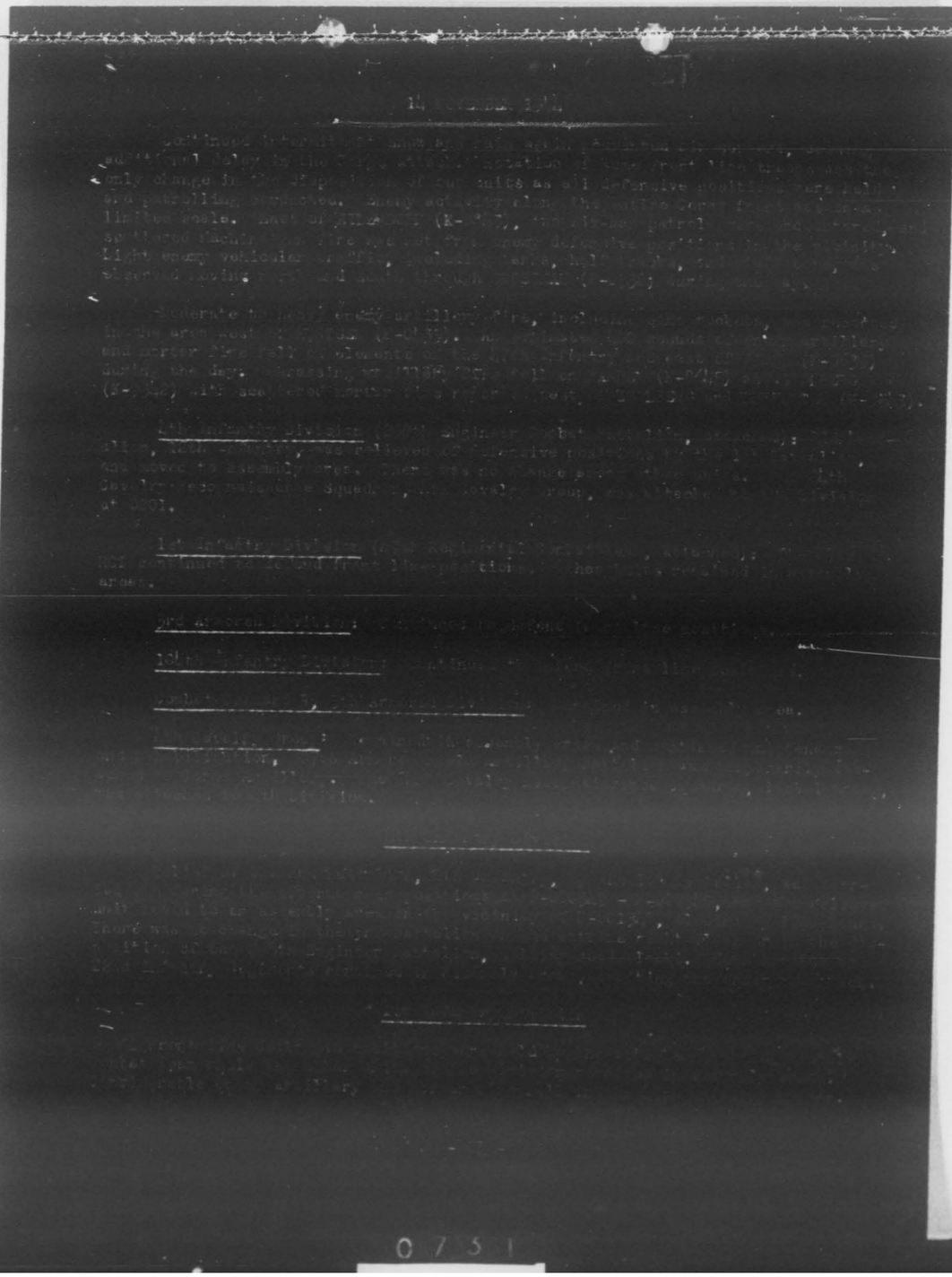

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3rd Armored Division

All units of the Division were awaiting the start of the new offensive. Front line positions were defended and routine patrolling continued. There was no change in the location or disposition of troops.

[illegible] Infantry Division

Continued to hold front line positions along the left flank of the Corps without change in the location of any units during the period. Operations consisted of patrolling and harassing fire.

Artillery

[illegible] Division: [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, 2 mortar and machine gun, and [illegible] miscellaneous missions were fired, a total of [illegible] missions. Rounds expended: [illegible].

[illegible] Division: All battalions remained silent except the [illegible], which fired [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] mortar and machine gun missions, expending [illegible] rounds.

[illegible] Division: Fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] personnel, [illegible] vehicle, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, [illegible] mortar and machine gun, and [illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible].

[illegible] Division: Fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] personnel, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, and [illegible] miscellaneous missions, expending [illegible] rounds.

Corps: Fired [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, [illegible] mortar and machine gun, and [illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible].

[illegible] Brigade: Fired [illegible] counterbattery missions, expending [illegible] rounds.

Antiaircraft: The action for the [illegible] hour period ending at [illegible] was reported by the [illegible].

Tank Destroyers: [illegible] shelled targets in the vicinity of [illegible] with [illegible] rounds of [illegible] indirect fire. The [illegible] expended [illegible] rounds of [illegible] missions.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: [illegible].

[illegible]

Intermittent [illegible] forced a delay in the [illegible] of the [illegible] Corps. [illegible] front line positions were defended and [illegible] patrol [illegible] maintained with the enemy. [illegible] was [illegible] limited patrolling [illegible] volume of artillery and mortar fire. A [illegible] patrol [illegible] Infantry [illegible] was [illegible] at [illegible]. A small group of enemy was observed [illegible] the [illegible] at [illegible], [illegible] northwest of [illegible]. [illegible] was observed near a railroad tunnel at [illegible], [illegible] northeast of [illegible]. [illegible] in the Corps front [illegible].

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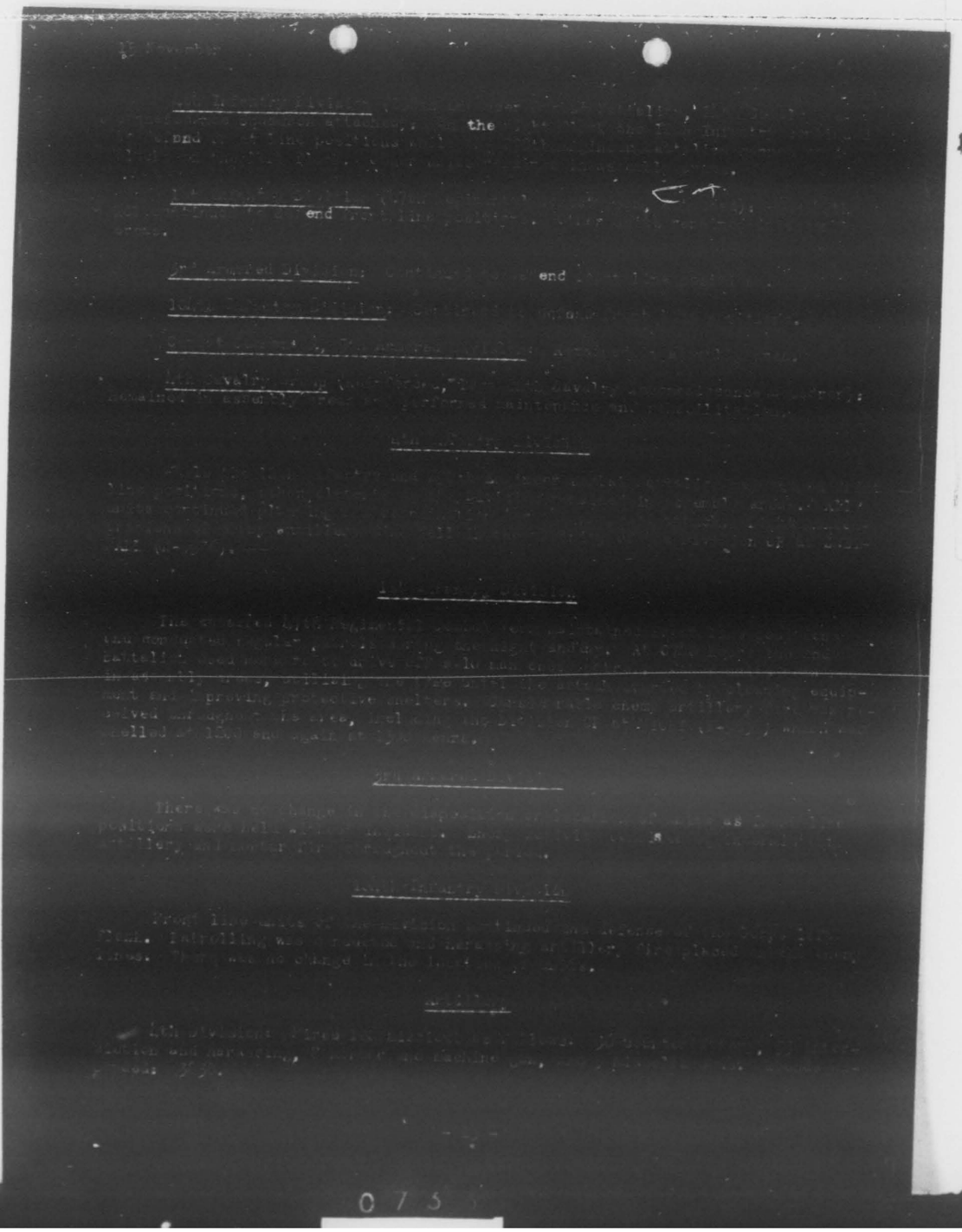

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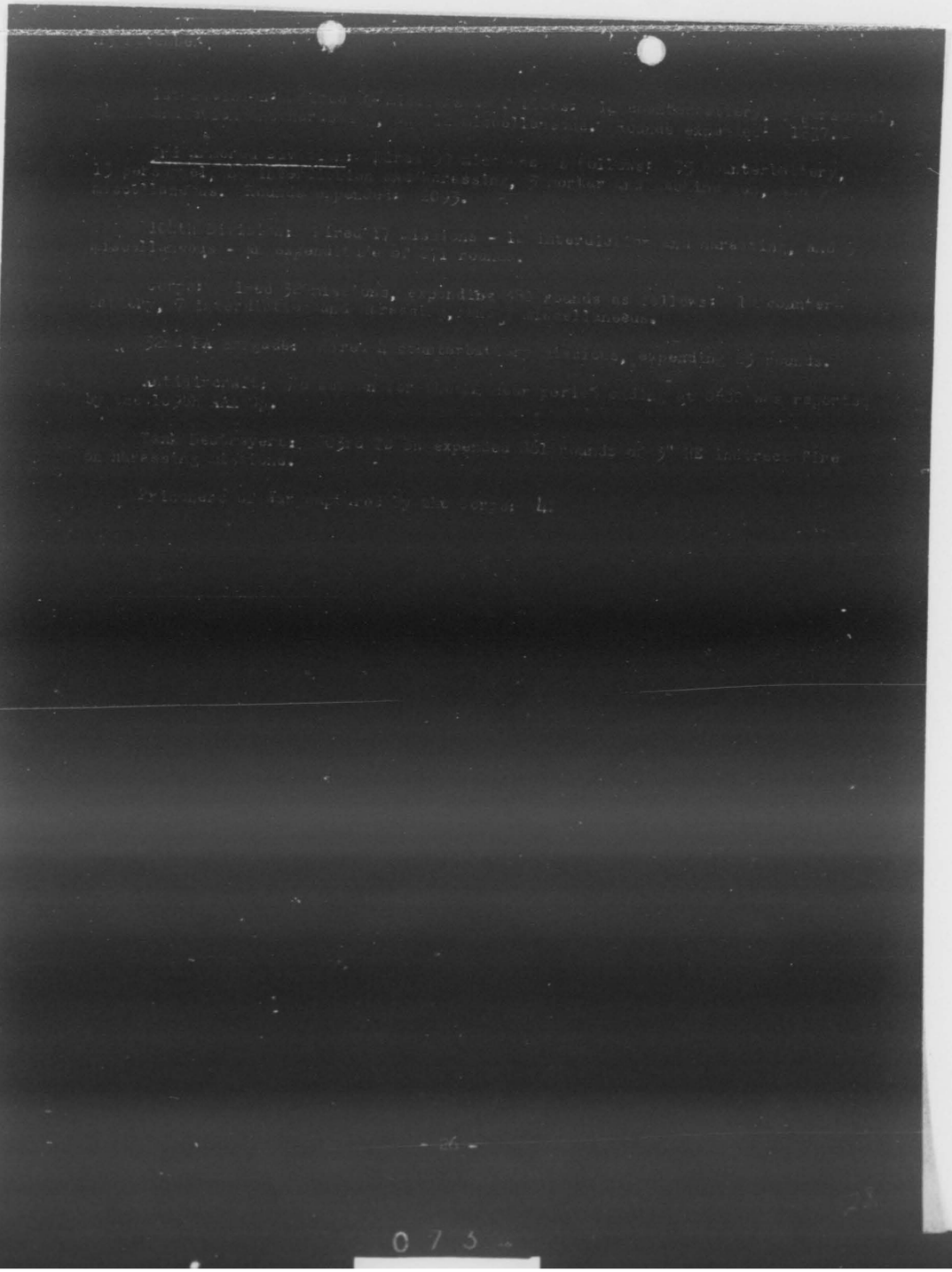

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16 NOVEMBER 1944

Supported by more than 4000 planes of the Eighth and Ninth Air Forces and the RAF, the VII Corps attacked at 1245A to seize KOLN (F-4560). The attack was launched in coordination with XIX Corps (Ninth U.S. Army) on our left. Substantial gains were made in the center of the zone of action with only slight gains on the two flanks.

The Corps attacked, with the 4th Infantry Division, the 1st Infantry Division, 3rd Armored Division, and 104th Infantry Division in that order from right to left across the front, toward DUREN (F-1246) - KOLN to penetrate the enemy's main defenses and capture the large Rhine City.

Prearranged bombing missions were carried out prior to H-hour with excellent results. Only a few bombs dropped short, and no casualties to our own troops were reported. Over 4100 tons of bombs were dropped by the Eighth Air Force as 1300 heavy bombers, escorted by some 600 fighters, bombed targets in ESCHWEILER (K-9647), STEINFURTH (K-9344), BERGRATH (K-9746), ROHE (K-9448), and the LANGERWEHE (F-0347) - JUNGERSDORF (F-0446) area to destroy field fortifications and personnel.

Medium bombers of the Ninth Air Force bombed ALDENHOVEN (K-9756) and LINNICH (K-9765) to destroy buildings and block roads and intersections. Field fortifications and personnel northeast of LUCHEM (F-0348) and similiar targets in the MARIAWEILER (F-0847) area were also bombed. A thousand heavy bombers of the RAF bombed DUREN and JULICH (F-0359) to destroy buildings and defenses and to block roads and intersections. Nearly 2700 tons of bombs were dropped on DUREN with good results. Tactical targets in the HEINSBURG (K-8574) area were also bombed. Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command bombed prearranged targets for the 1st and 4th Divisions, provided armed reconnaissance along the Corps front, and furnished close support for all divisions. Unfavorable weather curtailed close support in the afternoon.

A series of prearranged missions on enemy gun positions, installations and personnel were fired by Corps and Division Artillery. A message of congratulations was sent by the IX Bombardment Division (Ninth Air Force) to the Corps for the excellency and effectiveness of the counter-flak missions fired by our artillery. During the 24 hour artillery period, 41,400 rounds were fired, the largest expenditure in Corps history.

Enemy resistance to the Corps attack was relatively light immediately following the air and artillery preparation, but stiffened after 1500 hours. In the VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) - STOLBERG (K-9342) area, scattered small arms and mortar fire was encountered, particularly in the city of STOLBERG. Extensive minefields were found in the vicinity of WERTH (K-9743). Enemy resistance was scattered in the advance to the southern outskirts of HASTENRATH (K-9744), one of the initial objectives of the 3rd Armored Division. House to house fighting took place in GRESSENICH (K-9842). At 1600 a counterattack by an estimated company of enemy infantry 300 yards west of HAMICH (F-0043) was contained and driven off. Southwest of SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) minefields and three rows of concertina wire slowed up the advance of our forces.

No enemy armored activity was reported during the period and his artillery fire was light to moderate throughout the Corps zone. Two enemy planes were over the 104th Division zone of action on a reconnaissance mission at 1345 hours, and

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at 1300 one enemy aircraft dropped bombs in the vicinity of the 1st Division CP.

G-2 reported that within the zone of advance of the VII Corps, manning the concrete and field fortifications of the enemy were from west to east the following German units: 29th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 3rd Panzer Grenadier Division, 246th Fusilier Battalion, 246th Volksgrenadier Division, 27th, 89th, and 48th Regiments of the 12th Infantry Division, and elements of the 275th Infantry Division, comprising a total strength of approximately 6800.

Immediately available behind the troops occupying front line positions were an estimated tactical reserve of 6500 troops, composed of uncommitted portions of the 3rd Panzer Grenadier, 12th, and 275th Infantry Divisions, and miscellaneous units. In addition there was another estimated 31,000 troops available west of the Rhine River, part or all of which were capable of being thrown against a penetration toward the east by our troops. These units included the 9th and 116th Panzer Divisions, the 15th Panzer Grenadier Division, elements of the 2nd, 5th and 7th Parachute Divisions, and the 1st, 2nd, 12th, and 130th Panzer Divisions. Other unidentified units from the eastern and southern fronts were also thought to be in the zone.

4th Infantry Division (298th Engineer Combat Battalion and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Progressed slowly against heavily defended dug-in positions and dense woods for about 1500 meters. Extensive wire and minefields slowed progress. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was in the process of relieving the 298th Engineer Battalion.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): Made progress in the GRESSENICH area, advancing elements to the southeastern outskirts of the town, meeting stubborn defenses. House to house fighting continued. Elements were also advanced to the edge of HAMICH.

3rd Armored Division: Combat Command Boudinot attacked to the northeast and made rapid progress against scattered enemy resistance toward limited objectives. Task Force Mills (1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, reinforced) reached the outskirts of HASTENRATH, and Task Force Lovelady (2nd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, reinforced) captured WERTH. Both Forces encountered extensive minefields.

104th Infantry Division: Good progress was made in the STOLBERG area, but little advance was made on the left flank where extensive minefields were encountered.

Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division: Remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of WALHORN (K-3032).

4th Cavalry Group (Reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron): Remained in assembly area in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334) performing maintenance and rehabilitation.

4th Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Corps, the 4th Division passed through the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion, and attacked in accordance with the following plans: 12th, 22nd, and 8th Infantry Regiments abreast from right to left across the zone of action to seize crossing of the ROER River in the vicinity of DUREN and south thereof, assist the 1st Division on its left, protect the right flank of

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the Corps, and continue the attack in the southern section of the Corps zone to seize KOLN.

The 12th Infantry was to attack to seize the line F-020360 - F-035350 across the HURTGEN Road to provide a route and line of departure for the attack of Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division. Combat Command R was to seize HURTGEN and then BERGESTEIN RIDGE (F-0733); clear the road of mines between points F-015340 - F-015348 - F-023357 - F-033353, and protect the right flank of the Division.

At 1245 hours the 2nd and 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, attacked. The 1st Battalion held its original positions (F-020348 - F-026348) all day. By 1300 the 2nd Battalion had advanced 100 yards without receiving counter-preparation fire, and small arms resistance throughout the entire advance was light. The greatest difficulty was encountered in the minefield located at F-015350. The 2nd Battalion advanced to F-016354 - F-018352. The 3rd Battalion received heavy small arms, machine gun and mortar fire immediately upon attacking and continued to receive this fire throughout the entire advance. Final positions were reached at F-027345 - F-030345.

In the center of the Division zone of action the 22nd Infantry attacked to seize KLEINHAU (F-0537), the crossroad (F-053367) south of the town, and GROSSHAU (F-0538). The attack was launched at 1245 hours and a considerable advance was made against scattered resistance from small arms and machine gun fire throughout the advance. Enemy mortar fire was heavy, but his artillery was light. Final positions were: 3rd Battalion at F-007367 - F-008373 with Company L at F-009368 to F-012374; 2nd Battalion, F-015379 - F-019379 - F-019373; 1st Battalion, F-010383 - F-015380.

The 8th Infantry on the left flank of the Division had the objective of seizing the commanding ground in the WENAU FOREST. At 1245 hours the Regiment attacked in column of battalions, the 2nd Battalion leading, followed by the 1st and 3rd Battalions. A considerable amount of counter-preparation fire was received at the time the attack was launched. The 2nd Battalion advanced well until held up by barbed wire entanglements and small arms fire at F-017420 - F-018414 - F-017413. The wire was well protected by small arms and machine gun fire, making it difficult to place bangalores for breaching purposes. The 2nd battalion received continuous artillery fire throughout the period. At 1420 the 1st Battalion moved up to the line of departure from which the 2nd Battalion had attacked and at 1540 moved southeast to the right flank of the 2nd Battalion. Final positions at F-016413 - F-016407 with Company B at F-005410 - F-007407 were reached by the 1st Battalion. The 3rd Battalion moved from assembly area positions at 1540 hours to F-004406 - F-004403.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division attacked northeast toward LANGERWEHE (F-0347) at 1245 hours to seize crossings of the ROER River north of DUREN. Initially the Division was to secure GRESSENICH and HAMICH - NOTHBERG (K-9746), block the enemy in the NOTHBERG - WEISWEILER (F-0048) - INDEN (F-0252) area. After seizure of the area; NOTHBERG - HUCHELN (F-0047) - RJ at F-004483, the attached 47th Regimental Combat Team was to revert to control of the 104th Infantry Division.

The 1st Division attack was to be made by the 26th Infantry on the right and the 16th Infantry on the left with the 18th Infantry initially in reserve. The 47th Infantry (less 1 Battalion) was to hold its front line positions and

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upon being passed through by elements of the 16th Infantry was then to be prepared to attack on Division order to secure its objective. One Battalion was to attack to capture GRESSENICH at the same time the Division attacked.

The attack plan of the 26th Infantry was as follows: to seize and hold the commanding ground in the forest between HEISTERN (F-0115) and MERODE (F-0545), prepared for further advance to the north to seize the LANGERWEHE - JUNGERSDORF area, and to advance northeast to seize crossings of the ROER River.

At 1245 the 26th Infantry attacked. By 1700 the 2nd Battalion had knocked out one enemy pillbox and was mopping up in the area in the vicinity of F-015422. Company A was then enroute to close the gap between the 2nd Battalion and the 47th Infantry to the west. By 1800 the 2nd Battalion held positions from F-017426 to F-018425 to F-016421. At 1822 hours Company A succeeded in tying-in with the 2nd Battalion and making contact with the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry. As late as 2100 hours the Regiment was consolidating positions won during the day. Final positions of the 26th Infantry were as follows: 1st Battalion, F-003430 with Company A at F-011423; 2nd Battalion, F-016425 - F-018423 - F-016420; 3rd Battalion, K-980382.

The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, attacked at 1245 with Companies A and C making the assault. The plan of the 16th Infantry was to seize and hold HAMICH - NOTHBERG RIDGE (K-9746), maintain contact with the 26th Infantry on its right and the 47th Infantry on its left, and establish contact with the 3rd Armored Division as soon as practicable. Upon being passed through by the 47th Infantry, the Regiment was to be prepared to advance to the northeast and pass through the 18th and 26th Infantry Regiments and secure crossings of the ROER River, north of the 26th Infantry.

Despite heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire, the 1st Battalion was on the objective in the vicinity of HAMICH at 1515 where they were counter-attacked by the enemy. The 3rd Battalion was ordered to move out at 1532 from its assembly area and the 2nd Battalion ordered to move to the area vacated by the 3rd Battalion. By 1628 contact was established with the 47th Infantry and mutual arrangements made for the latter to patrol to the 16th Infantry right flank. Company I was then enroute to Hill 232 (K-998444).

By 1700 hours the enemy attack had been contained and driven off and the 1st Battalion was consolidating the initial objective. Final positions of the 16th Infantry were: 1st Battalion, K-996429 - F-001435 - F-009436 - F-006431; 2nd Battalion, K-993396; 3rd Battalion, Company I at K-998426 - K-996429, Company K at F-003425, and Company L at F-006430 - F-006423.

The 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry attacked at 1245 hours and by 1330 hours was in BUSCHHAUSEN (K-9841). Companies A and C entered the southern outskirts of GRESSENICH at 1436 hours against heavy small arms and anti-tank fire. At 1442 these two companies were abreast at K-990422. The Battalion engaged in house to house fighting in the southern edge of the town. At 1700 hours Company I cut the road leading east out of GRESSENICH to SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042), and at 1740 the 1st Battalion began consolidating its positions, continuing to do this until late in the period. The 2nd Battalion and 3rd Battalion, less Company I remained in place.

Regimental units were located as follows at the close of the period: 1st Battalion, K-987424 - K-992422 - K-996418; 2nd Battalion at K-993415 - K-987412 with Company E at F-010410; 3rd Battalion at K-997422 - K-996428.

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The 18th Infantry remained in reserve. Locations of units were as follows: 1st Battalion, K-948360, 2nd Battalion, K-948356, and the 3rd Battalion, K-935355.

3rd Armored Division

Initially the Division was to support the attack of the 104th Infantry Division on its left with fire, then launch a limited objective attack to HASTENRATH, WERTH, (K-9743) KOTTENICH (K-9943), and be prepared to continue the attack either in the zone of the 1st or 4th Divisions to cross the ROER River rapidly and advance to the RHINE in the Corps zone. Combat Command Hickey was ordered to support the 104th Division with fire, initially, then to assemble on Division order in the vicinity of BUSBACH (K-9340) and be prepared for a rapid movement to the northeast in the Corps zone to exploit any break through in the enemy's defensive lines, or to be prepared to assist the advance of the infantry within the Division zone.

Combat Command Boudinot was to attack at H-hour to seize KOTTENICH - HASTENRATH - WERTH area, and then be prepared for a rapid movement to the northeast in the Corps zone. Combat Command Howze (Division Reserve) was to continued holding defensive positions until passed through by Combat Command Boudinot and elements of the 104th Division, and then assemble in the vicinity of DIEPENLINCHEN (K-9742).

At 1245 hours Combat Command Boudinot attacked to seize its initial objective. The reinforced 2nd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment (Task Force Levelady) advanced rapidly against light opposition and by 1440 secured its objective WERTH. The left column of the reinforced 1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment (Task Force Mills) also advanced rapidly to positions at K-977444, but the right column was delayed by minefields encountered at K-964429 and was forced to by-pass to the east. At the close of the period Task Force Mills was on the outskirts of HASTENRATH, prepared to continue to its objective the next day, and Task Force Levelady had secured the town of WERTH and KOTTENICH.

There was no change in Combat Command Hickey with units remaining in locations as follows: 2nd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, K-932431 - K-935433 - K-944429; 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, K-944384; 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, K-938417. In the Division Reserve area, the 1st Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment moved to positions in the vicinity of K-965412, the 3rd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, moved to positions at K-968408, and the 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment remained in positions at K-970409.

104th Infantry Division

On the left flank of the Corps the 104th Division was to attack in the direction of DUREN and KOLN with the 30th Division (XIX Corps) on its left and the 3rd Armored Division making a limited objective attack on its right. On the right flank of the Division the 414th Infantry was initially to seize HILL 287, west of DUFFENTER at K-945434. Immediately thereafter the 414th Infantry was to attack and seize the commanding ground and roads in the ESCHWEILER WALD from the vicinity of HASTENRATH to just east of STEINFURTH. The Regiment was then to be prepared to attack and capture ESCHWEILER, hold the right flank and maintain contact with the 3rd Armored Division.

When the attack was launched at 1245 hours the main effort was made by the 414th Infantry on the right flank. Resistance included continuous mortar, artillery, and machine gun fire, while the difficult terrain slowed the advance of the

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3rd Battalion. At 1500 the 1st Battalion moved forward on the right of the 3rd Battalion, continuing its advance to seize its objective (K-965449) and contact the 3rd Armored Division on its right. By 2300 hours the 1st Battalion had progressed approximately 800 yards north and was still moving at K-956435. The 2nd Battalion had moved to K-935405, preparing to follow and be in position on the right of the 1st Battalion after daylight. Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion captured DUFFENTER, had three companies surrounding HILL 287, and was prepared to mop up its objective in the morning and remain in position as Regimental Reserve.

In the center of the Division zone the 415th Infantry was assigned the mission of attacking north of STOLBERG to successively seize the BIRKENGANG (K-9443) - ZINKHUTTE (K-9444) area, commanding ground and road centers northwest of ATSCH (K-9344) and capture the city, and destroy all enemy in STOLBERG. The 1st Battalion attacked at 1245 hours and made good progress to reach the southern edge of the first objective where it had reorganized by 2300 while the 2nd and 3rd Battalion maintained constant pressure on the enemy and advanced from 300 to 800 yards. Final positions were as follows: 1st Battalion, K-939437 - K-943439; 3rd Battalion, K-923433 - K-930439; 2nd Battalion, K-900444 - K-911428.

On the left flank of the Division the 413th Infantry was assigned the missions of attacking to seize and hold: (1) the commanding ground in grid squares K-9146 and K-9147, northwest of ATSCH, (2) ROHE (K-9448); (3) DURWISS (K-9749); (4) PUTZLOHN (K-9951).

The 413th Infantry attacked at 1245 hours to the north of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845), encountering stubborn opposition from pillboxes and enemy minefields. By 2300 hours the most advanced elements of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions had progressed about 500 yards. The 1st Battalion began to move to the southeast after dark to a position to the rear of the right elements of the Regiment and by 2400 hours had closed in a new assembly area at K-865468 - K-870462. The 3rd Battalion held positions at K-895444 - K-891456 - K-887459, and the 2nd Battalion on the left at K-872464 - K-884458.

Other Units

Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division, remained in assembly in the vicinity of WALHORN (K-8032). The 4th Cavalry Group, less the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, which was attached to the 4th Division, remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334) under Corps control and performed maintenance and rehabilitation of personnel.

Artillery

Corps and Division Artillery units had one of the most active periods since the NORMANDY landings, 162 days ago, with a total of 41,400 rounds of ammunition being expended on 1664 missions.

4th Division: Fired 386 missions as follows: 72 preparation, 115 close support, 40 counterbattery, 113 interdiction and harassing, 34 mortar and machine gun, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 11,515.

1st Division: Fired 383 missions as follows: 121 preparation, 23 close support, 26 counterbattery, 10 tank, 143 interdiction and harassing, 16 machine gun and mortar, and 44 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 7098.

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16 November

3rd Armored Division: Fired 337 missions, expending 13,741 rounds, the greatest expenditure of any single division for a 24-hour period in the VII Corps. Missions fired were as follows: 150 preparation, 30 close support, 23 counter-battery, 1 tank, 112 interdiction and harassing, 9 mortar and machine gun, and 12 miscellaneous.

104th Division: Fired 357 missions as follows: 41 preparation, 20 close support, 15 counterbattery, 4 tank, 142 interdiction and harassing, 109 machine gun and mortar, and 27 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5621.

Corps: Fired 161 missions as follows: 83 preparation, 3 close support, 31 counterbattery, 47 interdiction and harassing, 2 machine gun and mortar, and 18 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3156.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 40 missions as follows: 7 preparation, 12 counter-battery, 20 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 269.

The 18th FA Bn (4.5 Rockets) fired 3 battalion volleys (H-10 and H/10) in support of the 1st Division attack. A total of 1548 rockets were fired.

A 981st FA Bn Air OP successfully adjusted his battalion on 2 active AAA batteries at the same time. The observer reported that excellent results were obtained on both targets.

The following report on the counter-flak preparation was received from the IX Bombardment Division (Ninth Air Force): "IX Bombardment Division reports that the anti-flak fire on 16 November was extremely effective. No ships lost and only 13 slightly damaged due to flak".

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600. Both the 116th and 413th AAA Gun (90mm) Battalions fired missions for VII Corps Artillery. The 116th AAA Gun Battalion fired 5 missions on 5 concentration points, expending 120 rounds of unobserved fire. The 413th AAA Gun Battalion fired 1 mission for the Corps on a concentration point. The results were unobserved. Between 1108 hours and 1313 this Battalion fired 2047 rounds of 90mm HE with special colored smoke, and 1196 rounds of HE H-71 with fuse M-43 were fired marking the front lines. At 1630, 156 rounds of 90mm were fired on 4 medium guns at K-972519 and at 1700, 80 rounds of 90mm were fired on 4 medium guns at K-947472.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn expended 570 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on 2 preparation missions. 692nd TD Bn expended 682 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions, 83 rounds of 3" HE, and 79 rounds of 3" APC, both direct fire, neutralizing 3 pillboxes and 21 enemy strong points. 703rd TD Bn expended 621 rounds of 90mm HE on indirect fire on harassing missions. The 803rd TD Bn expended 475 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions, and 9 rounds of 3" HE, and 1 rounds of 3" APC, both direct fire, neutralizing 1 enemy OP.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 106.

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Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 106.

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The Corps continued the attack making good gains in the HASTENRATH (K-9744) area and on the right flank of the 1st Division in the vicinity of K-0212. Slight gains were made elsewhere on the Corps front against heavy resistance. The towns of HASTENRATH, GRESSENICH (K-9842) and SCHERPENSEEL (K-9844) were occupied.

In the VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) - HAAREN (K-8645) area light resistance from machine gun and mortar fire was met in neutralizing 10 pillboxes. Heavy machine gun, machine pistol and mortar fire was encountered from small groups of enemy barricaded in buildings in the northern section of STOLBERG (K-9342), while to the east of the city long range mortar and machine gun fire were encountered from DUFFENTER HILL (K-9443). Only light resistance was met in occupying GRESSENICH, but extensive minefields and strong anti-tank fire were reported in the capture of HASTENRATH and SCHERPENSEEL. At 2130 hours, a small group of enemy attacked our positions at SCHERPENSEEL, but was repulsed. Well prepared enemy defenses, including wire entanglements and entrenched infantry, were encountered in the HAMICH (F-0043) area. Progress in the SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) - HURTGEN (F-0435) area was slow. At 1600 hours an estimated company of enemy infantry attacked at F-0140 southeast of SCHEVENHUTTE without penetrating our positions.

Close support by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command was provided for the 4th and 104th Divisions in the morning with good to excellent results. Air claims were 1 locomotive, 6 horse drawn vehicles, a wagon load of troops, 2 motor transports and miscellaneous traffic destroyed. In addition HURTGEN (F-0435) was bombed with good results and both GEY (F-0739) and KLEINHAU (F-0537) strafed. Two friendly planes were reported missing.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Resumed the attack in the morning but little progress was made due to concertina wire entanglements, booby trapped road blocks, and strongly defended positions in the dense woods. Active enemy resistance was encountered and several counter-attacks were repulsed by the 8th and 12th Infantry Regiments. The 298th Engineer Combat Battalion was relieved by the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and reverted to Corps control.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): Resumed the attack at 0800 and the 1st Battalion, 47th RCT, cleared GRESSENICH during the morning. Little progress was made in HAMICH, where heavy fighting occurred. To the east of HAMICH - SCHEVENHUTTE, the enemy's wire and mine defenses were broken and substantial gains were made to the northeast.

3rd Armored Division: Combat Command Boudinot resumed the attack and Task Force Mills occupied its objective, HASTENRATH and SCHERPENSEEL during the day. Progress was slowed due to the difficult terrain, wet ground, minefields, and heavy anti-tank fire. The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion moved up to clean out enemy groups in back of Task Forces Mills and Lovelady.

104th Infantry Division: The 1st Battalion, 414th Infantry, which had continued the attack through the night was withdrawn early in the morning to reorganize. Later the attack was resumed but little progress made against stubborn resistance. In the center of the Division and on the left flank limited advances were made and 10 pillboxes captured.

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Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division: Remained in assembly area.

4th Cavalry Group (Reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron): Remained in assembly area in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334) performing maintenance and rehabilitation.

4th Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, the 12th Infantry renewed the attack at 0830 hours. The 2nd Battalion advanced approximately 200 yards and ran into road blocks that were well booby trapped. Great difficulty was encountered in passing these road blocks, and 100 yards further on the Battalion became engaged in a strong fire fight. Resistance consisted of machine guns, mortars, small arms, and artillery with considerable 88mm fire. No advance was made beyond F-014353 - F-019352. At 1520 hours the 1st Battalion repulsed a counter-attack and held the line F-021349 - F-023352 - F-027348 to the right of the 2nd Battalion while the 3rd Battalion remained in positions to the rear of the 1st Battalion at F-027347 - F-029340.

At 0800 the 22nd Infantry continued the attack with the 1st and 2nd Battalions making the assault. The 1st Battalion received very heavy counter-preparation fire. The Battalion commander and other key personnel were casualties and the attack was temporarily disorganized. When the attack was resumed at 0900 hours an advance of approximately 1000 yards was made to the northeast against scattered small arms and rather heavy artillery fire. The 1st Battalion held positions at F-015387 - F-017384 in the KONIGL FOREST at the close of the period. The 2nd Battalion pushed east several hundred yards against heavy artillery fire to reach positions at F-016381 - F-018376, south and slightly east of the 1st Battalion. The 3rd Battalion cleaned out several enemy pockets in the F-0037 grid square during the day. Artillery fire was relatively light in this area. Positions of the 3rd Battalion were at F-008374 - F-007370.

On the left flank of the Division, the 8th Infantry attacked at 0805 hours in a column of battalions. The 2nd Battalion advanced and succeeded in blowing two holes in the wire entanglement to its front. However, heavy machine gun, small arms, mortar and artillery fire was received at this time and further advance was halted. A small arms fire demonstration was made by Company E to cover the withdrawal of Companies G and F, so as to place the 2nd Battalion in a reserve position. The 1st Battalion attempted to advance but were halted by concertina wire at 1600 hours. A gap was blown in the wire, but the enemy counter-attacked on the right and to the rear of the 1st Battalion. The attackers were repulsed but no further advance was made. The 3rd Battalion did not move from its reserve position during the day. Final positions of units were: 2nd Battalion, F-003398 with Company E at F-016418; 1st Battalion, F-018414 - F-014410; 3rd Battalion, F-005405.

1st Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, the 2nd Battalion, 26th Infantry, renewed the attack at 0800 hours. Heavy machine gun, mortar, and anti-tank fire was encountered, making progress very slow. At 1409 hours the 2nd Battalion succeeded in breaking through the enemy defenses on the right and penetrated his mines and wire obstacles. An advance of nearly a kilometer was made. Meanwhile the 1st Battalion started moving up at 1218 to be committed on the left of the 2nd Battalion. At the close of the period the following positions were held: 2nd Battalion, F-020430 - F-024431 with Company F at F-021425; 1st Battalion, F-013421 -

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F-015423, and Company A at F-020428. The 3rd Battalion remained in reserve at K-980382.

To the left of the 26th Infantry, Companies B and C, 16th Infantry were counter-attacked shortly after midnight. The attackers were beaten off and at 0800 hours the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry attacked HAMICH. The enemy countered with intense mortar, small arms, artillery, and direct tank fire. The Battalion reported that during an enemy counter-attack enemy troops were repulsed within 20 feet of the Battalion positions. By 1030 hours the Battalion was able to get some artillery up to support their attack and during the rest of the morning they were heavily engaged in the fight for HAMICH.

Fighting continued throughout the afternoon. Numerous communication trenches between houses and dug-in cellars in HAMICH were utilized by the enemy. Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion consolidated positions just north of the SCHLVENHUTTE - GRESSENICH Road. The 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry, was attached to the 16th Infantry at 1300 hours and moved to an assembly area at K-997396. The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, was not engaged, holding positions in the STAATS FOREST at K-993397 with Company G at F-005430 - F-005426.

At 1845 the 16th Infantry had made plans to continue the attack in the morning of 18 November with the 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry, passing through the 1st Battalion, to take the town. Artillery was to be employed first to cut away the buildings in order to reach the deeply entrenched cellars. After the 3rd Battalion seized the town, the 2nd Battalion in conjunction with the 47th Infantry was to seize K-997443 and the original objectives at K-999451 and F-002452.

GRESSENICH was captured during the morning by the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry. The attack was renewed at 0800 hours with Company C in the lead and Company B swinging around to the left of Company C to enter GRESSENICH from the west. By 0940 hours the 1st Battalion had been through the town and the occupation was completed at 1029 hours. The town was completely cleared of all enemy at 1140. The Division Commander ordered the Battalion not to move to the ridge line until further orders.

The 3rd and 2nd Battalions, 47th Infantry, continued to hold positions east and southeast of GRESSENICH, which they consolidated during the period. The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the 18th Infantry continued to remain in reserve without change.

3rd Armored Division

Task Force Mills of Combat Command Boudinot, attacked at 0730 hours to secure its objectives of HASTENRATH and SCHERPENSEEL. The left Force, which had made good progress the day before, entered the town of HASTENRATH at 1000 and at the close of the period was engaged in mopping up the town. The right Force entered SCHERPENSEEL at 1315 hours and at 2135 the enemy counter-attacked to drive them from the town. This enemy attack was repulsed without the loss of ground and mopping up operations were carried out in the town during the evening. Meanwhile Task Force Lovelady continued to occupy WERTH (K-9743) and KOTTENICH (K-9943) which were occupied the previous day.

There was no change in the location or disposition of Combat Command Hickey. At 0810 the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion was ordered to leave one company in positions and employ the remainder of its troops in clearing the area

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between DIEFFLINGEN (K-9641) and forward elements of Combat Command Boudinot. Numerous anti-tank and personnel mines were removed south of WERTH and the road between that town and DIEFFLINGEN cleared.

104th Infantry Division

During the night the 1st Battalion, 414th Infantry, endeavered to push forward toward objective 1 (commanding ground and road centers in the SCHWEILER WALD). An advance of some 600 yards was made through minefields and against mortar and artillery fire. Against this determined opposition the Battalion could make no further advance during the night and was withdrawn just prior to day light. The Battalion attacked again at 1230 hours and advanced about 600 yards to reach positions north of HUTTENTER at K-956435.

The 3rd Battalion attempted to seal off HILL 287 (K-945434) during the day, but by evening it was not completely in our hands, although surrounded on 3 sides. At the close of the period the Battalion held a positions at K-947432. At daylight the 2nd Battalion moved forward to an assembly position 400 yards to the right rear of the 1st Battalion. At 1230 hours the 2nd Battalion attacked abreast and to the right of the 1st Battalion and advanced about 900 yards to reach K-965431.

North of STOLBERG, the 1st Battalion, 415th made local advances of about 400 yards toward the Regimental objective, BUCHENBERG (K-9443) - ZINKHUTTE (K-9444) area, while maintaining pressure on the enemy. In the center of the Regimental zone the 3rd Battalion continued to mop up in STOLBERG while on the left flank, the 2nd Battalion continued pressure against the enemy in the WURSELER WALD. Final positions were as follows: 1st Battalion, K-935434 - K-939437 - K-943439; 3rd Battalion, K-920431 - K-933434; 2nd Battalion, K-899447 - K-919429.

On the left flank, the 413th Infantry mopped up in the VORLAUFSHEIDE area, and captured 10 enemy pillboxes. Positions at the close of the period were: 3rd Battalion, K-885459 - K-899449; 2nd Battalion, K-865468 - K-885459; 1st Battalion, K-885444.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 185 missions as follows: 35 preparation, 21 close support, 30 counterbattery, 2 tank, 81 interdiction and harassing, 3 mortar and machine gun, and 15 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6951.

4th Division: Fired 230 missions as follows: 5 preparation, 72 close support, 61 counterbattery, 63 interdiction and harassing, 13 mortar and machine gun, and 16 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 7989.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 244 missions as follows: 19 preparation, 88 close support, 48 counterbattery, 5 tank, 72 interdiction and harassing, 3 machine gun and mortar, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 9616.

104th Division: Fired 246 missions as follows: 51 preparation, 27 close support, 15 counterbattery, 2 tank, 59 interdiction and harassing, 63 machine gun and mortar, and 29 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6477.

Corps: Fired 186 missions as follows: 32 preparation, 17 close support, 53 counterbattery, 70 interdiction and harassing, 3 machine gun and mortar, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4076.

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32nd FA Brigade. Fired 10 counterbattery, 8 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous mission, expending 200 rounds.

The artillery with the Corps had another very busy day supporting the attack with an expenditure of 35,309 rounds. Extensive preparations were fired by Division Artilleries and followed up with effective close support fires. A large number of enemy batteries, located by Air OPs, were fired on by Corps and Division Artilleries. A heavy interdiction and harassing program was fired during the night. Quiet periods during which the artillery with V, VII and XIX Corps fired no missions, were designated to facilitate sound locations of enemy batteries.

The 195th FA Bn (8" H) was adjusted on a concrete bunker on HILL 287 by a 104th Div Arty forward observer. 12 rounds of HE with fuze quick were fired. The observer reported 10 direct hits with the bunker completely destroyed. This extremely accurate laying and service of the piece was performed by the 3rd Section of Battery B. Gun-target range was 8000 yards.

The 413th and 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Battalions were available for missions on ground targets during the afternoon. These units were usually employed to thicken the fires on TOT missions. Frequently the AA Bns were given the adjusted coordinates of an enemy battery and were fired 10 or 15 minutes after the original concentration in order to catch the enemy with a mass of surprise fire as they came out of their holes.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 290.

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Continuing the attack in the direction of the ROER River the VII Corps made made progress in the center of its zone and on the flanks. A strong counter-attack by the enemy was repulsed late in the period after the enemy had made a penetration into HAMICH (F-0043). Elsewhere along the Corps front positions gained were consolidated and plans made to renew the attack the next morning.

Northeast and northwest of VERLAUTENHEIDE (K-8845) the enemy lessened his resistance, allowing our patrols to advance toward the south side of the WURSELEN (K-8748) - STOLBERG (K-9342) Railroad where it was believed an enemy defensive line existed. In northern STOLBERG, however, the enemy continued a stubborn defense from houses, factories, and the debris of buildings, employing small arms and automatic weapons fire. The defenders of DONNERBERG HILL (K-948432) were forced to withdraw after 24 hours of persistent fighting. Heavy enemy machine gun, mortar, bazooka and artillery fire fell in the HASTENRATH (K-9744) area. Elements of the 47th Volksgrenadier Division yielded HAMICH and the high ground to the northeast after strong resistance.

At 1800 hours the enemy made his first attempt to retake HAMICH, employing an estimated company of infantry supported by two tanks. This attack was repulsed. The attempt to retake the village occurred at 2200, when the counter-attack came from the northeast, with an estimated battalion of infantry and a company of tanks entering the northern outskirts of the town. This action continued at the close of the period.

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In the SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) - HURTGEN (F-0435) area the enemy relied upon artillery and mortar fire, aided by booby traps and marshy ground to retard our progress. Approximately 300 yards east of SCHEVENHUTTE the 116th Panzer Division elements were thrown into the line. Further to the south, the 89th Division displaced the 1055th Regiment, from the VOSSENACK (F-0432) area to the vicinity of F-0338 to strengthen his forces west of CROSSHAU (F-0538).

The IX Tactical Air Force provided close support fighter-bombers as the weather remained clear with visibility excellent. Six squadrons supported the 1st Division, and five squadrons each, the 1st and 104th Divisions. Results were good to excellent. Smoke marked targets at K-9448 and K-9645 were attacked, and a village at K-968448 was bombed. The towns of GEY (F-0739) and KLEINHAU (F-0537) were strafed, HURTGEN was attacked three times, and EDEREN (K-9562), where many enemy vehicles were observed, was bombed. One group of medium bombers attacked ECHTZ (F-0748), 2 groups bombed WEISWEILER (F-0048) and DURWISS (K-9749), and one group bombed GEY (F-0739).

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): On the right the 12th Infantry made little progress due to mines and booby traps. Good progress was made by the 22nd and 8th Infantry Regiments.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): Cleared HAMICH during the afternoon, took HILL 232 (K-997443), and also made contact with elements of the 3rd Armored Division. A strong enemy counter-attack was repulsed after the enemy had penetrated into HAMICH, late in the period.

3rd Armored Division: Held previously gained positions and repelled a light enemy counter-attack between HASTENRATH (K-9744) and SCHERPENSEEL (K-9844) late in the afternoon, and continued to mop up in the former village.

104th Infantry Division: The 414th Infantry reached its objective (K-960447) and captured HILL 287 (K-9043). Patrols of the 413th Infantry reached the railroad running northwest from STOLBERG to WEIDEN (K-8947), and WURSELEN.

Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division: Remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of WALHORN (K-8032).

4th Cavalry Group (Reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron): Remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334), performing maintenance and rehabilitation.

4th Infantry Division

The attack to the northeast was resumed by the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, at 0830 hours. Opposition encountered in this area the previous day had not slackened and progress was extremely slow. Small arms, machine gun, and artillery fire, and numerous mines were encountered slowing down the attack. Companies E and F attempted a coordinated attack at 1520 but the supporting armor bogged down, and foot elements had to continue without them. By the close of the period, the entire Battalion had advanced only a short distance. Aggressive enemy activity on the fronts of the 1st and 3rd Battalions was negligible throughout the period, and their positions remained unchanged. The final dispositions of the Regiment follows: 2nd Battalion, F-015352 - F-018348 with Company G at F-017352 - F-020352; 1st Battalion, F-021349 - F-025351; 3rd Battalion, F-027347 - F-029344.

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In the center of the Division zone, considerable enemy infantry activity was noted in front of the 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, at 0700 hours but was reduced immediately by prearranged artillery fires. At 0830 the 1st and 2nd Battalions renewed their efforts, attacking abreast. Small arms and artillery fire was encountered immediately. The attack progressed slowly, crossing the main north-south road through the KONIGL FOREST at 0900. By 1100 resistance had increased and during the afternoon slow progress was maintained toward the east against stubborn opposition. At the close of the period the two battalions were in contact on a general north-south line some 600 or 700 yards east of the roadway with the 1st Battalion holding the line: F-026389 - F-026385, and the 2nd Battalion, F-026385 - F-026380. The 3rd Battalion closed within supporting distance at the rear of the leading battalions at F-016385, prepared to pass through these elements the next morning.

On the left flank of the Division, the attack of the 8th Infantry was delayed by enemy artillery and mortar concentrations but was initiated at 0915 by the 1st Battalion. Wire entanglements in the vicinity of F-018416 were breached and an advance made through an anti-personnel minefield. By 1145 leading elements had reached F-026419, but lost several supporting tanks due to anti-tank mines. The advance was continued throughout the afternoon against light opposition, but heavier mortar and artillery fire, and by dark the 1st Battalion had reached the edge of its objective in the vicinity of F-038415. The 3rd Battalion moved to the vicinity of F-010415 preparatory to attacking toward its objective to the east of this point. Company E rejoined the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of F-003398 where the entire unit was assembled in Regimental Reserve.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, attacked at 0800 hours in a column of Companies, C, B, and A. The terrain and enemy resistance made progress slow. At 1137 Company C moved west to clean the enemy out of GRESSENICHER WALD. About 200 yards west of F-020430 a fire fight developed in the fire break. Little advance was made during the day, but the 1st and 2nd Battalions succeeded in establishing contact and the 3rd Battalion moved out from its assembly area, in the vicinity of K-980382 and joined the rest of the Regiment in the GRESSENICHER WALD along the Division right flank. At the close of the period the disposition of the Regiment was as follows: 1st Battalion near HILL 272 from F-020428 to F-022428 with Company A at F-021426; 2nd Battalion, F-022425, F-022430, F-024432, F-028430; 3rd Battalion, F-011421 - F-017421 - F-018424 - F-022422 - F-022425 - F-018425 - F-018424.

After passing through the 1st Battalion, the 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry, attacked north at 0800 hours to seize and secure HAMICH. By 0901 the 3rd Battalion held about a third of the town in the face of enemy artillery fire and direct fire from HILL 232 (K-997444). The town was occupied at 1300 and at 1330 an enemy counter-attack from the vicinity of F-010440 was repulsed. The 1st Battalion then moved up to the town. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion had attacked from the southwest edge of HAMICH on the left of the 3rd Battalion, to advance northwest and seize HILL 232. The advance was made in a column of Companies F, E, and G, and by 1505 hours the Hill was taken. At 1700 Companies E and F had established contact on the Hill and went into position there.

At 1800 the 16th Infantry reported Company C was being counter-attacked. The attack came from the northeast and the enemy was able to work in close in the darkness. By 2100 the enemy attack had shifted from the 1st Battalion to the 3rd

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Battalion. The enemy objective appeared to be HAMICH and the attack still persisted. By 2300, after the enemy had made some penetration into the town, the attack was repulsed, aided by 5350 rounds of Division Artillery fire, and there remained two companies of the 16th Infantry in HAMICH. The 1st and 3rd Battalions further consolidated captured positions and prepared them for all-around defense.

The attached 47th Regimental Combat Team conducted active patrols during the period and held positions previously occupied without change. All units of the 104th Infantry remained in the same positions they had occupied the day before. The 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry, was still attached to the 16th Infantry.

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Boudinot continued to consolidate and defend LOTHEIM (K-9943), SCHERPENSEEL (K-9844) and WERTH (K-9743) throughout the period and mopped up in HASTENRATH (K-9744). At 1715 hours the 1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, reinforced, was counter-attacked by infantry. A heavy artillery concentration was placed on the attacking forces and by 1900 the counter-attack had completely died out. There was no change in the disposition of Combat Command Hickey. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued to mop up and remove mines in the area of Combat Command Boudinot.

104th Infantry Division

The day's main effort was made on the right flank by the 414th Infantry which succeeded in capturing HILL 287 (K-945434) and occupying its initial objective (the commanding ground and roads in the ESCHWEILER WALD). At 0800 the 1st Battalion, on the right, renewed its efforts to advance to the initial objective when a coordinated attack was launched by infantry and supporting arms. Against stubborn resistance the 1st Battalion advanced slowly forward to reach the objective ground in the ESCHWEILER WALD at 2005 hours. A gain of more than a mile was made, with the 1st Battalion occupying positions in the vicinity of K-960447. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion attempted to move to the right of the 1st Battalion toward the objective. Stiff resistance was met from pillboxes in the vicinity of K-968435 and no advance was made beyond this point. HILL 287, which the enemy had defended fiercely, was seized by the 3rd Battalion at 1230 and one company advanced 300 yards to the front (north) of the Hill.

In the center of the Division zone, the 415th Infantry had local success against pillboxes and fortified positions to its immediate front. The 2nd Battalion regrouped in preparation for renewing the attack the next day. At 1600 the 1st Battalion reverted to Regimental Reserve. There was no appreciable change in the location of units.

Aggressive patrolling was conducted by the 413th Infantry on the left flank. Northeast and northwest of VERLAUTENHEIDE, enemy resistance decreased and patrols advanced as far as 800 yards to the railroad running from STOLBERG to WEIDEN and WURSELEN. After regrouping, the 2nd Battalion closed on the road 500 yards to its front, while the 3rd Battalion continued to neutralize pillboxes. Locations of units at the close of the period were as follows: 1st Battalion, K-885444; 3rd Battalion, K-885459 - K-900450; 2nd Battalion, K-885468 - K-885461.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 290 missions as follows: 5 preparation, 127 close support, 26 counterbattery, 16 tank, 83 interdiction and harassing, 1 machine gun and

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mortar, and 32 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 13,572.

4th Division: Fired 257 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 71 close support, 61 counterbattery, 90 interdiction and harassing, 12 mortar and machine gun, and 22 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 8155.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 232 missions as follows: 14 preparation, 114 close support, 15 counterbattery, 4 tank, 62 interdiction and harassing, 6 mortar and machine gun, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 11,302.

104th Division: Fired 244 missions as follows: 47 preparation, 26 close support, 13 counterbattery, 1 tank, 55 interdiction and harassing, 71 mortar and machine gun, and 31 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4526.

Corps: Fired 171 missions as follows: 10 preparation, 29 close support, 48 counterbattery, 1 tank, 53 interdiction and harassing, 6 mortar and machine gun, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3707.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 11 counterbattery, 8 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous missions, expending 198 rounds.

This was another very busy period for the artillery with VII Corps with a total of 41,460 rounds being fired. Division Artilleries fired extensive preparation for the division attacks. Corps and Div Artilleries gave continuous support to the divisions with many observed counterbattery and close support missions. The 1st Inf and 3rd Armd Div Artilleries and Corps Arty were instrumental in breaking up several enemy counter-attacks during the period. A heavy interdiction and harassing program was laid on enemy positions during the night.

The 18th FA Bn (attached to 1st Div) fired their second mission with 4.5" Rockets on 18 Nov. 10 launchers mounted on 3/4 T trucks were moved forward to previously surveyed positions in GRESSENICH at 1400. 3 volleys were fired in a period of 8 1/2 minutes. The equipment and personnel were then quickly withdrawn from the town. A total of 1830 rounds were fired on this mission. During the past 3 days 118,169 rounds were fired by Arty with the surpassing the week of 10-16 July when over 100,000 rounds were fired.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported for the 24 hour period ending at 0900 by the 109th AAA Gp. The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn fired 24 rounds of HE on an enemy battery at 1135 using map data (four place coordinates). An Air OP reported the results as "beautiful".

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn (SP) fired 20 rounds of 3" APC and 60 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, destroying 2 Mk VI tanks and an AT gun. The 692nd TD Bn (T) expended 668 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction and harassing missions, and 109 rounds of 3" APC and 88 rounds of 3" HE, both direct fire, at 2 pillboxes, 5 strong points and an enemy OP. The 703rd TD Bn (SP) expended 100 rounds of 90mm HE direct fire, destroying 1 Mk V tank, a self-propelled gun, and an AT gun. The 803rd TD Bn fired 1273 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on close support missions, and 63 rounds of 3" HE direct fire on an enemy OP.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 260.

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Progress was made in the center of the Corps zone of action with elements

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advancing to the vicinity of WENAU (F-0144) and also on the left flank where units reached the outskirts of ROHE (K-9448) and ESCHWEILER (K-9647). On the right flank the advance was slow due to extensive minefields, wire entanglements and the deep mud in the thickly wooded area and very little gain was made. Counter-attacks were repulsed in the 1st and 4th Division areas.

After being contained in the northern outskirts of HAMICH (F-0043) during most of the early morning, the enemy launched another attack at 0400 hours against the southern portion of HAMICH, employing elements of the 47th Volksgrenadier and 116th Panzer Divisions and 15 tanks. At the same time another attack was launched by troops of the 104th Regiment (47th Volksgrenadier Division) against HILL 232 (K-998442). Both attacks failed to gain their objectives and HAMICH was completely in our hands by 1400.

Little resistance was offered our troops in crossing the WURSELEN (K-8748) - STOLBERG (K-9342) railroad and to their advance north and northwest of PROPSTEIER WALD (K-9346), southwest of ESCHWEILER. However, within the forest, the enemy stubbornly resisted with small arms, mines and booby traps. Likewise, the enemy continued his resistance from the ruined buildings of northern STOLBERG (K-9342). Feeble attempts were made to prevent our patrols from reaching the southern outskirts of ESCHWEILER at K-955460. Between HASTENRATH (K-9744) and HAMICH the enemy yielded ground slowly, contesting our advances in that area with artillery and morter fire. From the HURTGEN - GROSSHAU (F-0538) Forest the enemy was again successful in limiting our advances to a minimum. His continued use of mines, and wire, linked with the natural terrain obstacles kept progress to the northeast and east almost at a standstill.

Eighteen missions were flown for the three infantry divisions in the Corps by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command in supplying close support. In support of the 104th Division a fighter group attacked buildings, factories, villages, gun positions, tanks, motor transports, and a CP in the ESCHWEILER area. A group supporting the 1st Division attacked artillery positions, woods, buildings, motor transports and other smoke marked targets. On a late afternoon mission one squadron observed large numbers of enemy vehicles, some moving northeast, in the area between DUREN (F-1246), JULICH (F-0359), and the front lines. An accurate estimate of the total number was impossible, but the squadron believed that there were approximately 1000 vehicles. Concentrations were bombed and strafed with unobserved results at LANGERWEHE (F-0347), KRAUTHAUSEN (F-0753), MERKEN (F-0750), and the woods at F-080532. Because of the late hour no other attacks were possible on the vehicle concentrations.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Only slight advances were made and a counter-attack repelled in the afternoon.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): Good gains were made on all fronts against moderate to heavy resistance. A strong counter-attack was repelled after the enemy had penetrated into HAMICH which necessitated the town being cleaned out again. Other gains included the capture of HILL 189 (K-986456), and an advance to the outskirts of WENAU.

3rd Armored Division: Combat Command Boudinot continued to defend KOTTENICH (K-9943), SCHERPENSEEL (K-9844), and WERTH (K-9743), and mopped up in HASTENRATH (K-9744). Combat Command Hickey regrouped.

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104th Infantry Division: Made good progress on all fronts against light to moderate resistance. Stubborn house to house fighting continued in northern STOLBERG while advances were made to the outskirts of ESCHWEILER and ROHE.

Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division: Remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of WALHORN (K-8032) and reverted to Division control at 2400A.

4th Cavalry Group (Reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron): Remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334) and performed maintenance and rehabilitation.

4th Infantry Division

On the right flank of the Division, the 2nd Battelion, 12th Infantry renewed the attack toward HURTGEN (F-0435) at 0845 hours. Although no counter-preparation fire was encountered, small arms and mortar fire and the dense minefields in the HURTGEN FOREST limited the advance to very slight gains. No advance was made beyond F-020347 - F-025348. The 1st and 3rd Battalions consolidated positions and did not attack during the day, holding the same general line as the previous day.

Progress of the 22nd Infantry in the center of the Division zone was delayed due to numerous mines and the necessity for opening a supply route to the forward battalions (1st and 3rd Battalions). The main supply route forward contained many anti-tank mines, 3 deep in places. Many mines were activated and much time was consumed in clearing. There was no appreciable change in the location of units, except Company I, which was relieved of road block No. 6, (F-015388) by elements of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and moved to the vicinity of F-017385 to protect the left (north) flank of the Regiment.

On the left flank, progress of the 8th Infantry was likewise slow. When the 1st Battalion renewed the attack at 0940 hours small arms, machine gun and tank fires were encountered. Commencing at 0930 the 3rd Battalion staged forward behind the 1st Battalion with Company I leading. This Company reached the fire break, just south of the 1st Battalion at F-028415, where small arms and mortar fire was received. Here Company I dug-in and Companies L and K were ordered to attack to the south to take a limited objective in the vicinity of F-020403. Company K reached the objective at 1900, capturing 48 prisoners. Final disposition of units was follows: 1st Battalion, F-024419 - F-029414; 2nd Battalion, F-012413; 3rd Battalion, F-029416 - F-027413 with Company L at F-018408 and Company K at F-020402 to F-022406.

The 24th Cavalry Squadron continued to hold road blocks, maintained contact between the 8th and 22nd Infantry Regiments, and screened the areas to the rear of the advancing Combat Teams. Supply routes and roads were reconnoitered throughout the Division zone of action. The Squadron position was K-000365 with Troop A at F-008355 - F-006388, and Troop B at F-015403 - F-015408.

1st Infantry Division

The 26th Infantry continued the attack to seize and hold the commanding ground between HEISTERN (F-0145) and MERODE (F-0545) at 0800 hours. The 3rd Battalion passed through the 2nd and attacked due north. Steady progress was made against stiff resistance and the Battalion advanced about 2 kilometers to the southern edge of the objective, holding positions at F-032445 - F-025444, which they proceeded to consolidate. Companies B and C attacked northwest through the GRESSENICHER WALD and by 1230 Company C was deployed on HILL 272 (F-020430).

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Company B also made progress and advanced over a kilometer. At the close of the period Companies B and C were abreast, holding the general line: F-012435 - F-015435. Other elements of the Battalion were at F-020426. The 2nd Battalion, 26th Infantry remained in the same positions held the previous day. An enemy counter-attack was repulsed at 1730 hours.

The 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry, which had been attached to the 16th Infantry, reverted to Regimental control. While the 1st and 2nd Battalions were moving up from their assembly areas to attack positions, the 3rd Battalion attacked northeast at 1400 hours from an assembly area in the vicinity of HAMICH, to seize HILL 166 (F-009444). At 1700 the Hill was occupied and by 1800 Company I had cleaned out the town of WENAU and established a road block at the RJ in the center of town and another at F-010437. Company I went into defensive positions with Company K to its left. These two companies consolidated positions along the general line: F-008445 - F-015445 with Company L in an assembly area north of HAMICH at F-003438. The 1st Battalion moved to K-996396 and the 2nd Battalion moved up to F-007434.

At 0610 hours the 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry, was counter-attacked by tanks and infantry in HAMICH. The enemy made two separate thrusts, one against Companies L and K in HAMICH, and the other against Company C. By 0732 the attack was stopped and by 0800 hours the lines were being restored. Companies L and K made a limited attack at 1230 to clean out HAMICH and by 1323 had succeeded. The attack was renewed at 1400 and by 1500 hours the 3rd Battalion had advanced to F-003440. An enemy counter-attack forming in front of the Battalion was contained by artillery fire. The 3rd Battalion advanced about a kilometer to F-002448 - F-007447, occupying part of the Regimental objective southwest of HEISTERN. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion repulsed a counter-attack against HILL 232 (K-997413) and was relieved by the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry. The 2nd Battalion then attacked to the left of the 3rd Battalion, made progress capturing the hill at K-990449, and continued on to reach positions at K-990449 - F-992453 - F-003454, northwest of the 3rd Battalion, just short of the HAMICH - NOTHBERG Ridge. The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, assembled in the vicinity of K-998417.

At 1600 the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, passed through the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry and attacked northwest to capture the ground at K-985457. The 1st Battalion advanced about 2 1/2 kilometers to reach K-985455, near the southwestern edge of the 47th RCT's 2nd objective, the railways and road centers between NOTHBERG (K-9746) and WEISWEILER (F-0147). The 3rd Battalion took up defensive positions on HILL 232, relieving elements of the 16th Infantry, and the 2nd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of K-993415.

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Boudinot continued to defend WERTH (K-9743), SCHERPENSEEL (K-9844), KOTTENICH (K-9943) and mop up in HASTENRATH (K-9744). At 1135 hours Combat Command Hickey was ordered to move from defensive positions in the STOLBERG (K-9342) area to assembly positions at BUSBACH (K-9240) and at the close of the period troops under that Command occupied positions in that vicinity, having completed the move by 1800 hours. All elements of the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion assembled in the vicinity of K-962416.

104th Infantry Division

The Division made good progress on all fronts, encountering light to moderate resistance. During the night the 1st Battalion, 414th Infantry, advanced app-

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roximately 1000 yards, passing through a number of enemy strong points without drawing fire. Early in the morning the 2nd Battalion moved up on the right to join the 1st Battalion in the vicinity of K-965446 and at 1045 these Battalions attacked, making gains against stiff opposition. Heavy artillery and machine gun fire were received with the latter coming from about 400 yards to their front. The advance continued in the direction of the objective, ESCHWEILER, and at the close of the period the two Battalions were at the southern outskirts of the city. The 2nd Battalion held positions at K-964455 - K-973453 - K-974448, and the 1st Battalion at K-954453 - K-964455 with Company B at K-958439. The 3rd Battalion mopped up behind the forward elements and occupied positions at K-948433 and K-955433 with Company L at K-955439.

In the center of the Division zone of action, the 415th Infantry attacked at 0800 with the 1st Battalion quickly advancing some 500 yards to gain its first objective for the day in the vicinity of K-944447. The attack continued and the 1st Battalion advanced well against wire, minefields, and light to moderate infantry resistance including long range machine gun fire. Gains of about 2 kilometers were made with the 1st Battalion reaching positions at K-940451 - K-946451. The 3rd Battalion in the center of the Regimental zone, and the 2nd Battalion on the left flank, advanced slowly due to the continuous fields of mines and booby traps. In the northern outskirts of STOLBERG, the 3rd Battalion encountered stubborn opposition as house to house fighting continued. The 3rd Battalion was reorganized at 2300 hours and at the close of the period held positions at K-930-448 - K-930446 with Company K at K-930440. The 2nd Battalion was at K-915458 - K-922451 on the southern edge of the second Regimental objective, the commanding ground northwest of ATSCH (K-9244).

The 413th Infantry on the Division left flank, also attacked at 0800 with the 3rd and 2nd Battalions abreast. Both units advanced more than 4000 yards, gaining their first objective, the commanding ground northwest of ATSCH in grid squares K-9146 and K-9147. The attack continued with the 2nd Battalion and Company L pushing on until held up by a stiff pocket of resistance. Artillery supported tank-infantry teams smashed through, however, and the advance continued for another 1000 yards. By dark the 2nd Battalion was nearing the second Regimental objective, ROHE (K-9448). Final positions were: 2nd Battalion and Company L, K-930483 - K-935479. The 3rd Battalion had taken up positions at K-918471 on the initial objective. Meanwhile the 1st Battalion remained in reserve.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 211 missions as follows: 43 preparation, 57 close support, 13 counterbattery, 8 tank, 67 interdiction and harassing, 9 mortar and machine gun, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5488.

4th Division: Fired 318 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 76 close support, 53 counterbattery, 9 tank, 110 interdiction and harassing, 45 machine gun and mortar, and 25 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 8351.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 84 missions as follows: 25 preparation, 12 close support, 18 counterbattery, 9 interdiction and harassing, 12 mortar and machine gun, and 14 close support. Rounds expended: 2748.

104th Division: Fired 4 close support, 5 counterbattery, 102 interdiction and harassing, 32 mortar and machine gun, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2915.

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Corps: Fired 100 missions as follows: 39 counterbattery, 40 interdiction and harassing, 1 tank, 1 preparation, and 19 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2247.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 3 counterbattery, 7 interdiction and harassing,,and 2 miscellaneous, expending 77 rounds.

Total rounds fired by Arty with VII Corps: 21,126.

Of the 26 observed missions fired by Corps Artillery, 19 were observed by Air OP. Good effect was reported on all these missions. One successful Arty reconnaissance mission was handled by Corps Artillery during the period. The first target was an enemy battery in the open, the coordinates of which were transmitted to the pilot. The 980th FA Bn (155 G) was adjusted on the target by the pilot who reported the fire to be very effective with the area well covered. On this mission only 11 minutes elapsed between the firing of the first round and the receipt at the Fire Direction Center of the pilot's report on the effectiveness of the second fire for effect. Following the first missions the pilot observed an emplaced enemy battery and again adjusted the 980th FA Bn. Upon completion of the mission the adjusted coordinates were sent to the 751st FA Bn (155 H) and the 195th FA Bn (8" H) who joined the 980th FA Bn in repeating fire for effect. The pilot reported 4 direct hits on the emplacement.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 by the 109th AAA Gp. The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn fired 4 registrations and 6 TOT missions for VII Corps Artillery. All fire was unobserved with the exception of 1 TOT mission with excellent results reported by Air OP.

Tank Destroyers: A Mk VI tank was knocked out by the 634th TD Bn (SP) using 3" HE direct fire. The Bn expended 100 rounds during the period. The 692nd TD Bn (T) expended 121 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing and interdiction missions and 64 rounds of 3" APC and 63 rounds of 3" HE direct fire on 4 pillboxes, 6 enemy strong points and 1 OP. The 803rd TD Bn (SP) fired 820 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on close support missions and 15 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, knocking out an anti-tank gun and killing the crew.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 430.

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Good progress was again made in the center of the Corps zone and on the left flank, but little gain was made on the right where the difficult terrain and extensive minefields slowed the advance. Elements of the 104th Division advanced into HOHE (K-9448), HEHLRATH (K-9450) and the southern outskirts of ESCHWEILER (K-9647). HASTENRATH (K-9744) was cleared of enemy by the 3rd Armored Division and the Division was pinched out By the 104th and 1st Infantry Divisions. WENAU (F-0144) was also cleaned up and enemy forces in HEISTERN (F-0145) were isolated. Over 750 prisoners were captured by the Corps.

Following a night characterized by light harassing and interdictory fire, the enemy continued to react to the VII Corps attack throughout the day in the same manner as he reacted the previous day; delay in the area northwest of ESCHWEILER and stubborn defense in the area south and southeast of ESCHWEILER, and in the forest north and west of HURTGEN (F-0435). Falling back slowly through the northern portion of STOLBERG (K-9342), PROPSTEIER WALD (K-9346), and the area to the north thereof; and utilizing the many populated areas for house to house

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fighting, the enemy reached the line ROHE-HEHLRATH. By nightfall he was forced to share both towns with our troops.

South and southeast of ESCHWEILER the enemy fought back stubbornly and yielded ground only when it was no longer tenable. The villages of WENAU and HEISTERN were likewise defended from house to house. Southeast of ESCHWEILER, the 47th Volksgrenadier Division threw into the front lines to fight as infantry a battery of artillery and a battalion of engineers in an attempt to bolster the sagging lines.

At 1225, one and a half miles southeast of HAMICH (F-0043), the enemy counter-attacked from the east with elements of the 47th Volksgrenadier Division. This attack was the only enemy offensive action during the period and it failed. In the forest north and west of HURTGEN, the enemy again defended stubbornly but not as successfully as the preceding 48 hours. Despite the wire and mine belts, the use of self-propelled guns, heavy artillery, and his infiltrating patrols, he was forced to give ground in the vicinity of F-0240 and F-0236 west of GROSSHAU (F-0538). Following the appearance of the 116th Panzer Division units and elements of 1055th Regiment of the 89th Infantry Division, the enemy further reinforced his lines in this sector by the addition of elements of the 91st Infantry Division.

Colder weather, followed by rain which made visibility extremely poor, caused the curtailment of all fighter-bomber and medium bomber missions for the Corps by the IX Tactical Air Command. At 2400 a new temporary boundary between the VII and V Corps went into effect as follows: Northwest of ROTT from K-920330 to K-955330 to K-980334 to F-006350 to F-026360 to the RJ south of GROSSHAU at F-055380 to STRASS (F-0839).

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): On the extreme right the 8th Infantry made little progress but in the center and left of the Division limited objectives were almost occupied.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): Progress was made on the Division front as HEISTERN was cut off and WENAU cleared of enemy forces. An enemy counter-attack was repulsed with heavy losses to the foe.

3rd Armored Division: Cleared HASTENRATH of the enemy and was then pinched out by the 104th and 1st Infantry Divisions.

104th Infantry Division: Continued the advance on the left flank, making good progress against light scattered to moderate resistance. Elements entered both ROHE and HEHLRATH, and the southwestern edge of ESCHWEILER. Stubborn fighting continued in northern STOLBERG.

4th Cavalry Group (Reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron): Remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334) and performed maintenance and rehabilitation.

4th Infantry Division

Limited objective attacks were launched by all three regiments. On the right flank, the 12th Infantry attacked at 0800 to the northeast to secure the line F-020360 - F-025350. The 2nd Battalion had great difficulty in crossing the fire-break to its front due to wire entanglements and enemy small arms fire. Mines and booby traps continued to hinder the attackers. It was necessary for

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engineers to construct a bridge in the 2nd Battalion zone before tanks could be brought up to support the attack. The bridge was completed at 1030 and the attack renewed, but small arms resistance was met by all battalions and enemy artillery and mortar fires continued very heavy. Little progress was made. The final disposition of units was as follows: 1st Battalion, F-020348 - F-025351; 2nd Battalion, F-017352 - F-023351; 3rd Battalion, F-026347 - F-028341, with Company I at F-020344.

The 22nd Infantry attacked at 0850 hours to secure the day's objective - F-033399 - F-032387, west of GROSSHAU (F-0538). The 2nd Battalion encountered a great amount of small arms fire immediately upon attacking, as the enemy also attacked at the same time. Fierce fighting took place and at 1100 the 2nd Battalion was unsuccessfully attacked by six enemy tanks. Some progress was made and the 2nd Battalion advanced about 400 yards toward the objective to reach F-031383 - F-029377 - F-026378. The 1st Battalion which had attacked at 0920 at once encountered heavy small arms and mortar fire, but nevertheless made progress, advancing between 600-700 yards to reach the edge of the objective by 1030. A large group of enemy was observed coming from the north. The 1st Battalion allowed the enemy to advance to within a few yards of its positions before opening fire, and at the extremely close range inflicted heavy casualties on the foe and took a number of prisoners. Positions were held at F-029399 - F-033388 - F-033385. The 3rd Battalion remained in reserve at F-015386 - F-025384.

At 0900 the 8th Infantry attacked eastward to secure the limited objective, F-034425 - F-028401. The 3rd Battalion on the right was able to advance about 500 yards in the face of heavy small arms, machine gun, mortar and artillery fire, and succeeded in taking a number of prisoners. Positions were gained in the vicinity of F-028404, near the southern part of the objective line. The 2nd Battalion advanced initially until meeting the enemy's main line of resistance and stiff fighting continued all day. Gains up to 500 yards were made by the 2nd Battalion and at the close of the period positions were held at F-027412 - F-026407. The 1st Battalion was unable to make any advance, and the heavy fires they encountered caused a high number of casualties. Final positions were at F-025418 - F-026416.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division was ordered to continue the attack early on 20 November to gain contact with the 104th Division in the vicinity of NOTHBERG (K-9846) and block the enemy north and west of the INDE River, while also continuing the drive to capture LANGERWEHE (F-0247), seizing the RJ at F-032437 and securing the RJ in the vicinity of SCHLOSS LAUFENBURG (F-0244).

The 26th Infantry continued the attack at 0800 hours. An enemy counterattack from the northeast was repulsed by the 2nd Battalion at 1225, aided by heavy artillery concentrations. Heavy losses were inflicted upon the enemy cut off in the woods. Little gain was made by the 2nd Battalion and at the close of the period it occupied positions at F-025432 - F-027429 - F-023425. Meanwhile the 1st Battalion succeeded in breaking through the enemy's lines to seize the objective high ground along the line: F-007430 - F-012435. The 3rd Battalion succeeded in consolidating its positions and gained control of the road junction at F-032437 and the one in the vicinity of SCHLOSS LAUFENBURG (F-0244), holding positions in the vicinity of F-034445.

At 0830 the 18th Infantry attacked to the north and northeast. Company I cleaned out WENAU and then attacked north astride the WENAU - HEISTERN Road. Com-

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pany K also attacked north through WENAUERHOFCHEN (F-0144) toward HEISTERN and by 1100 Companies I and K were abreast and engaged in a fire fight in HEISTERN. Meanwhile Company L had moved from HAMICH and attacked around the left flank of Company K, hitting HEISTERN from the west. By 1627 the 3rd Battalion was engaged in house to house fighting in HEISTERN and by 1700 the road junction at F-013452 was secured and the Battalion was consolidating in the town at F-011451 - F-015451 and a road block at F-020450 was established. The 1st Battalion moved up to occupy the assembly area south of HAMICH, formerly occupied by the 2nd Battalion.

At 1330 the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry moved from an assembly area, approximately 500 yards south of HAMICH, by-passed HEISTERN to the right, and continued the attack in a column of companies to the northeast. By 1400 the leading elements of the 2nd Battalion were at 011443 and at 1651 Company E, the leading unit, was on HILL 207(F-024455). Progress continued and final positions were reached to the east of the WENAU - LANGERWEHE Road from F-018440 to F-023456.

Early in the morning the 16th Infantry on the left flank had established contact with the 18th Infantry on its right and Task Force Lovelady (3rd Armored Division) on the left. At 0800 the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, launched an attack in conjunction with the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry on its left to capture the high ground north of BOVENBERGER WALD, northeast of SCHERPENSEEL. At 0900 these two battalions were engaged in a fire fight 200 yards from the line of departure. By 1100 the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, held a line from K-999454 to F-003452 and was advancing slowly. At 1137 hours the 2nd Battalion with the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry on its left engaged in another fire fight with the enemy in the BOVENBERGER WALD. Enemy defenses were pierced by the 2nd Battalion and it broke through to seize the objective high ground in the vicinity of F-0046, holding positions from F-010459 to F-003463. The 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, held positions to the left at K-995460 - F-002463 with Company I at K-998458. The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, reorganized in an assembly area at K-997416, and the 3rd Battalion remained in an assembly area at K-002448 - F-007447.

While the 3rd Battalion was attacking in conjunction with the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, attacked northwest toward NOTHBERG. At 1210 HILL 187 (K-986456) was occupied. During the afternoon this HILL was bitterly contested by the enemy with Company B striving to clear them from the area. After occupying HILL 232 (K-998444) at 1530, Company C moved about 1000 meters northwest to the rear of Company B. Meanwhile Company A had advanced to the east of Company B and at the close of the period the Battalion positions were as follows: Company A, K-994455 - K-998458; Company B, K-983456 - K-988458; Company C, K-989451 - K-993451. The 2nd Battalion remained in Reserve positions at K-999418 - K-992414 - K-988411.

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Boudinot completed mopping up in HASTENRATH at 1139 hours. The 1st Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, reinforced, (formerly Task Force Mills) continued to occupy the towns of HASTENRATH and SCHERPENSEEL (K-9844), while Task Force Lovelady held positions in WERTH (K-9743) and KOTTENICH (K-9943). Combat Command Hickey continued to remain in assembly positions. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion maintained outposts at WERTH, reconnoitered for damaged vehicles, and conducted minefield reconnaissance. There was no change in the location of elements of the Division Reserve. The Division was pinched out by the 1st and 104th Divisions.

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20 November

104th Infantry Division

The 104th Division was ordered to attack to seize NOTHBERG and pinch out ESCHWEILER from the north and west, and to make contact with elements of the 1st Infantry Division in the vicinity of NOTHBERG.

At 1100 the 414th Infantry attacked with the 1st and 2nd Battalions. The advance was held up several hours by heavy fires from the vicinity of VOLKENRATH (K-9745). In the middle of the afternoon two TOT artillery concentrations placed within 500 yards of the front line troops, allowed the Regiment to make a short advance. At dark the 414th continued to push the attack and despite the difficult terrain and weather gained about 700 yards in the direction of the objective, north of NOTHBERG. The 1st and 2nd Battalions consolidated positions at K-968463 - K-978459. The 3rd Battalion which had mopped up in the Regimental zone assembled in the vicinity of K-955435.

In the center of the Division zone the 1st and 2nd Battalion of the 415th Infantry attacked toward ESCHWEILER at 0800 hours. Patrols from the 1st Battalion entered the city at 1120 and the main body of the Battalion at 1640. By evening it was well entrenched in the southern part of ESCHWEILER after engaging in severe house to house fighting. The 2nd Battalion, meanwhile, had advanced through the dense PROPSTEIER WALD, and by dark reached the outskirts of ESCHWEILER after an advance of more than 3000 yards. The final positions of these two battalions were: 1st Battalion, K-954468 - K-958462, and the 2nd Battalion, K-940477 - K-944460. The 3rd Battalion which had been engaged in very hard fighting in clearing up enemy resistance in the vicinity of STOLBERG (northern factory district) since 16 November, assembled in the vicinity of K-925449 - K-935449.

The 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry, attacked at 0800 against moderate resistance and advanced until it had reached the outskirts of its objective, ROHE. Here heavy machine gun and mortar fire was met. At 1335 the 2nd Battalion advanced under the cover of tank fire and captured the town. Gains were consolidated and the Battalion reorganized. During the afternoon the 1st Battalion moved from an assembly area in the vicinity of K-885444 to the north (left) of the 2nd Battalion. By dark it had sloughed through the mud to MEHLRATH and at 2300 was mopping up and reorganizing. Patrols were sent out to DURWISS (K-9749) and contact made with the 30th Division, XIX Corps (Ninth U. S. Army) to the left. The 3rd Battalion remained in Regimental Reserve.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 242 missions as follows: 6 preparation, 13 counterbattery, 56 personnel, 22 strong point, 9 mortar and machine gun, 22 vehicle and tank, 71 interdiction and harassing, and 53 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5585.

4th Division: Fired 276 missions as follows: 5 preparation, 84 counterbattery, 30 personnel, 23 strong point, 44 close support, 1 vehicle and tank, 88 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 7302.

104th Division: Fired 175 missions as follows: 3 counterbattery, 48 personnel, 10 mortar and machine gun, 1 vehicle and tank, 74 interdiction and harassing, and 39 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3919.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 16 missions - 2 preparation, 7 counterbattery, 1 personnel, 1 vehicle and tank, and 5 miscellaneous - an expenditure of 732 rounds.

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Corps: Fired 119 missions as follows: 3 counterbattery, 36 personnel, 2 preparation, 21 strong point, 4 mortar and machine gun, 61 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3452.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 12 counterbattery and 5 interdiction and harassing missions, expending 131 rounds.

The total number of rounds fired by artillery with VII Corps was 21,121, making an expenditure of 160,416 rounds since D-day (16 Nov).

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 692nd TD Bn fired 127 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on direct support missions. The 803rd TD Bn expended 830 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions and 14 rounds of 3" HE direct fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 755.

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ROHE (K-9448), HEISTERN (F-0145), and HEHLRATH (K-9449) were cleared of the enemy and elements advanced to DURWISS (K-9749) as the Corps attack continued to make progress. In the southwestern outskirts of ESCHWEILER (K-9647) small gains were made as house to house fighting took place. In the center of the Corps zone little progress was made while on the right flank, the 12th Infantry of the 4th Division was relieved by the 121st Infantry (8th Division) of V Corps. Over 700 prisoners of war were captured by the VII Corps.

Early in the period the enemy showed his reluctance to give ground south of ESCHWEILER. At 0310 elements of the 47th Volksgrenadier Division, supported by a Panzer Battalion and five self-propelled guns, attacked the southern section of HEISTERN. In this action the enemy fought until 1200 when he was forced to withdraw after having lost over 140 men taken prisoner besides other heavy casualties. Another battalion from the same division counter-attacked our forces at 0915 from the northeast and east, in the vicinity of SCHARFENBROICH (F-0345). This counter-attack was quickly repulsed by our artillery.

The enemy relied upon his defensive anti-tank, artillery and mortar fires to prevent our further advance from the south toward ESCHWEILER and to the northeast beyond HEISTERN. In this action he was partially successful. Likewise the enemy was successful in holding our troops on the western outskirts of ESCHWEILER by making use of an extensive minefield covered by small arms fire and by the natural defenses offered by the INDE River. Only in the area northwest of the city did he give ground. There he was forced to give up HEHLRATH and fall back on DURWISS where, by night fall, house to house fighting was in progress. Again in the forest north of HURTGEN (F-0435) the enemy was able, by means of his wire entanglements, road blocks and minefields, augmented by artillery fire, to limit our progress to a few hundred yards.

Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command flew over the Corps area attempting to give close support to attacking infantry, but were unable to execute any mission because of the unfavorable weather. Medium bombers attempted to bomb DERICHSWEILER (F-0745) and BERTZ (F-0748) by blind bombing. The results of these attacks were unobserved.

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4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Positions were held during the day while enemy forces were cleared from the areas within the 22nd and 8th Infantry Regimental zones. The 12th Infantry was relieved by the 121st Infantry (8th Division), but remained in defensive positions. Roads, bridges, and supply routes throughout the Division zone were improved, mines cleared and contact established among units.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): Little progress was made during the day. HEISTERN was cleared of enemy, a strong point at F-013455 captured, and several enemy counter-attacks repulsed.

104th Infantry Division: Cleared ROHR and HEMRATH of the enemy and advanced to DUDWISS where approximately 1/3 of the town was cleared against stubborn resistance. House to house fighting occurred in the western edge of ESCHWEILER.

3rd Armored Division: Remained in assembly areas and performed maintenance and rehabilitation.

4th Cavalry Group (Reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron): Remained in an assembly in the vicinity of EYNATTEN (K-8334) and continued maintenance and rehabilitation.

4th Infantry Division

On the right flank all elements of the 12th Infantry, remained in the same positions as at the close of the previous day as the front line 1st and 2nd Battalions were relieved by the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 121st Infantry. Units were to be withdrawn in the morning of 22 November.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions, 22nd Infantry, remained in positions secured the previous day and continued preparations for resuming the attack to the east the next day. The 3rd Battalion moved out at 0800 hours to mop up rear areas along the Regimental main supply route extending north to the Regimental boundary, and made contact with the 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry, which was executing a similiar mission. The 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, then assembled in the vicinity of F-022387 in Regimental Reserve.

On the left flank a similiar operation was carried out by the 8th Infantry with the 1st and 2nd Battalions remaining in front line positions which they continued to improve, and prepared for the advance to the northeast. The 3rd Battalion mopped up to the rear and established contact with the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, in the vicinity of F-023395 at 1515 hours. The 3rd Battalion then moved north to occupy positions at F-021403 which was Company I; Company K at F-012417, and Company L at F-008407.

1st Infantry Division

An enemy counter-attack against the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry was repulsed by tanks and artillery during the morning. At 0910 the 1st Battalion of this Regiment was released from Division Reserve and passed through the 3rd Battalion at 1200 hours attacking northeast. During the afternoon a small advance was made against stiff opposition including heavy shell fire. By 1900 the 1st Battalion had advanced 600 to 700 yards from the line held by the 3rd Battalion and consolidated positions at F-038449 - F-041444 with Company C to the rear of the leading Companies. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions remained in positions held at the close of the previous period.

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At 0830 the 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry, attacked from HEISTERN to clear the enemy to the north and seize and secure the road junctions at K-011455 and F-015454, both of which were occupied by 1130 hours. Strong enemy resistance was encountered in northern HEISTERN and it was eliminated only after stubborn cellar to cellar fighting. At 1130 the 1st Battalion was committed, passing through the 3rd Battalion and attacking to the north along the HEISTERN - LANGERWEHE Road. By 1700 hours the Battalion was consolidating positions at F-012-459 - F-018459 after a gain of about 700 yards. The 2nd Battalion also attacked north, but after advancing approximately 300 yards encountered a strong enemy line they were unable to penetrate. Final positions were at F-020459 - F-027458 with Company F at F-020449.

The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, continued the attack at 0900 hours and at 1000 were meeting very heavy enemy artillery fire. The direction of the attack was north and east to gain a limited objective, vicinity of F-003463. By 1130 the Battalion had reached this position and began consolidating for all around defense, maintaining close contact with the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, on the left. Positions were held at F-003463 - F-004460 - F-007458. The 1st and 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry, did not attack during the day and continued to hold the same positions as at the close of the day before.

At 0900 the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry continued the attack. After advancing to limited objectives north of BOVENBERGER WALD at 1200, leading elements were later withdrawn 300 yards to secure better tactical ground for the night. Positions were organized and consolidated along the line: K-995460 - F-002463. The 1st Battalion continued to fight for HILL 187 (K-985457). At 1615 hours the 1st and 104th Divisions and Corps Artilleries participated in a TOT on the Hill. The effect of the TOT was reported as perfect with an area 300 yards wide by 500 yards deep covered by 20 battalions of artillery, comprising over 200 guns. 823 rounds, 21 tons, were fired and one captured German NCO said his unit was reduced from 120 to 20 men. Positions at the close of the period of the 1st Battalion were: Company A, K-994455 - K-998458; Company B, K-989451 - K-993451; Company C, K-989454. The 2nd Battalion remained in Reserve at K-993415.

104th Infantry Division

During the night the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 414th Infantry, endeavored to advance toward the second Regimental objective, the high ground north of VOLKENRATH (K-9745). Company A succeeded in reaching the southern portion of the objective but was driven back by artillery fire. At 0200 Companies C and F commenced to move forward against strong enemy resistance. Stubborn fighting continued all day with our advance being hindered by enemy fire which came from the direction of HILL 187. At dusk the 2nd Battalion had gained about 300 yards and this hard won ground was consolidated for the night. Positions of the two assault battalions were: 1st Battalion K-972460, and 2nd Battalion: K-977454 - K-974457. The 3rd Battalion moved north to a position about 1500 yards to the rear of the leading units, clearing the route between HASTENRATH and VOLKENRATH which was completed by 1515 hours.

The attack on BOCHWEILER was continued by the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 415th Infantry, at 0800. The 1st Battalion met sporadic resistance due to the fact that most of the enemy encountered seemed bent on escaping. The Battalion was hampered by the continuous minefields and booby traps which were covered by long range machine gun and artillery fire, but by dusk had gained 200 yards and was preparing to

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21 November

push forward under the cover of darkness to the center railroad of ESCHWEILER. Positions were held at K-955468 - K-960460 at the close of the period. By 1300 the 2nd Battalion had gained the shelter of a factory, but progress from there was temporarily halted by enemy emplacements which artillery had failed to neutralize. Finally anti-tank guns reduced these strong points and the difficult advance continued. At dusk some 400 yards had been gained. The Battalion reorganized for the night at K-946480 - K-949472. The 3rd Battalion remained in STOLBERG.

On the left flank the 1st Battalion, 413th Infantry continued mopping up HEHLRATH during the night. At 0800 the attack was resumed toward DURWISS. A fire fight developed immediately. By 1130 the Battalion had advanced to within 400 yards of the town from the west, but here it was held up by heavy fire from the outskirts of DURWISS. Three Corps Artillery concentrations were placed on the defenders and the advance continued with the Battalion entering the town at 1355, and by 1800 hours the 1st Battalion had reached the center of DURWISS against a determined enemy. The seizure of ROHE was completed by the 2nd Battalion at 1630 after hard fighting against a stubborn house to house defense by the enemy. At 1535 the 3rd Battalion had closed in HEHLRATH. Company L advanced 1000 yards north of DURWISS and from these positions the 3rd Battalion was preparing to attack the next day.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 197 missions as follows: 28 preparation, 81 personnel, 12 mortar and machine gun, 33 close support, 12 counterbattery, 4 tank, 4 interdiction and harassing, and 23 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6239.

4th Division: Fired 225 missions as follows: 28 preparation, 16 personnel, 17 mortar and machine gun, 16 close support, 56 counterbattery, 86 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5776.

104th Division: Fired 165 missions as follows: 7 preparation, 40 personnel, 12 mortar and machine gun, 2 counterbattery, 76 interdiction and harassing, and 28 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3739.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 41 rounds -- 28 interdiction and harassing, 5 preparation, 2 counterbattery, and 6 miscellaneous - an expenditure of 1909 rounds.

Corps: Fired 101 missions as follows: 9 preparation, 18 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 3 close support, 16 counterbattery, 46 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2955.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 1 personnel, 14 counterbattery, and 8 interdiction and harassing missions, expending 124 rounds.

The grand total for the period was 22,742 rounds.

Since the Corps attack was launched 16 November, the 3rd Armored Division made extensive use of tanks and assault guns in an artillery role. Both weapons played a big part in the preparation and afterwards were used for neutralizing area targets, and for harassing and interdictory fire. During the first 3 days of their use the assault guns fired 1900 rounds of ammunition while the tanks expended 27,500 rounds.

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Test firing to determine resistance of the large standard German air raid shelters to the 155mm Gun M-12 (SP) using HE shell with Fuze CP T-105 (concrete piercing) was conducted in AACHEN (K-8443) 21 November, by Hq VII Corps Arty and Btry C, 991st FA Bn. It was found that complete penetration with bursts inside the shelter could be expected not later than the third round at ranges up to at least 1500 yards when firing normal to the wall, and when firing at 45 degrees to the wall, at ranges up to at least 1000 yards. Complete penetration with bursts inside, was obtained on the first round at 300 yards with the direction of fire normal to the wall.

The outside walls are lightly reinforced concrete 6 1/2 feet thick designed to withstand fragmentation and bomb blast but not direct artillery fire.

It was probably the first occasion in history when a practice range for heavy artillery was established within a city.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy craft was reported for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 by the 109th AAA Gp. The 116th AAA Gun Bn expended 120 rounds of 90mm ammunition in FA role on an SP gun mission.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 734.

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The capture of ESCHWEILER (K-9647) was completed by the 415th Infantry, 104th Division at 1110 hours after a successful night attack. DURWISS (K-9749) was also captured as the Corps attack progressed well on the left flank with elements advancing to PUTZLOHN (K-9951). In the center of the Corps zone HILL 187 (K-9864.57) was captured and two enemy counter-attacks repulsed. Little progress was made elsewhere. The difficult terrain and stubborn enemy resistance continued to withstand efforts of our right flank elements to advance.

Enemy activity during the period again was confined to stopping our attacks to the northeast toward WEISWEILER (F-0048) and LANGERWEHE (F-0347) and the prevention of our cutting the DUREN (F-1246) - LANGERWEHE Road, one of his main avenues of withdrawal. Starting at 0100 hours a small force infiltrated into VOLKENRATH (K-9745) from the northeast and armed with automatic weapons and an anti-tank gun, succeeded in temporarily forcing our withdrawal from the town. This success was soon neutralized when the enemy was driven from the town after dawn. By employing heavy artillery and mortar fire and aided by good defensive positions built around rugged and commanding terrain he was able to hold our drive from HEISTERN (F-0145) toward LANGERWEHE to a minimum.

At 1620 enemy engineers supported by tanks attacked our forces one mile north of HEISTERN. This attack from the east was contained; however, by 1720 another attack composed of infantry alone, was launched from the east toward the same general vicinity as the preceding attack. This attack was also repulsed. The enemy defended the village of PUTZLOHN and at the close of the period still occupied the town. Southwest of MERODE (F-0445) and west of GROSSHAU (F-0538) the enemy continued to defend stubbornly from behind field fortifications and by employing a large amount of artillery fire. However, in both areas he was forced to give ground and take up new positions, but made no attempt to regain any of his losses.

Cool, cloudy weather with intermittent rain and poor visibility rendered any fighter-bomber or medium bomber support for the Corps attack impossible. Artillery of the infantry divisions again had a very active period, firing 561 missions in support of the attack.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): The 8th Infantry attacked to the east and advanced to the edge of its objective, JAGERHAUS (F-0342). Little advance was made elsewhere while the 12th Infantry moved to an assembly area.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, and 4th Cavalry Group, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): HILL 187 (K-9864.57) was captured and small gains made elsewhere against stubborn resistance. Two counter-attacks were repulsed as the enemy continued his active defense tactics.

104th Infantry Division: Captured ESCHWEILER, the second German city to fall to the Corps. DURWISS was cleared of the enemy and elements advanced to PUTZLOHN. Other units reached the ROER River.

3rd Armored Division: Remained in an assembly area and continued maintenance and rehabilitation.

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4th Infantry Division

The 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, passed through the 1st Battalion at 0900 hours and attacked to the east in conjunction with the 2nd Battalion. Both battalions met heavy resistance throughout the period. The 3rd Battalion advanced nearly a kilometer and reached the road from which the town of GROSSHAU could be seen. Positions were held at F-041386 - F-043384 - F-041381. Two pillboxes as well as dug-in tanks were encountered by the 2nd Battalion. During the day this battalion made gains to the southeast of about 700 yards with final positions at F-035379 - F-036374 - F-033374. Company B moved up to protect the right flank at F-032376. Other 1st Battalion units remained in place as Reserves.

At 0830 hours the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 8th Infantry, attacked against heavy opposition. The 1st Battalion succeeded in advancing to the edge of its objective, JAGERHAUS, where it halted, unable to bring up supporting armor because of the extensive minefields and poor road conditions. The 2nd Battalion consolidated positions at F-023412 ready to attack on order to take the objective (F-043421) as soon as the 3rd Battalion had secured its initial objective (F-034425 - F-028410). The 3rd Battalion, which attacked at 0940, received heavy artillery and morter fire but advanced to F-032415, taking 70 prisoners.

Having been relieved in place by the 121st Infantry, the 12th Infantry started moving to an assembly area at 0730 hours. The 1st Battalion closed in the new location at 1115, the 2nd Battalion at 1215, and the 3rd Battalion at 1000 hours. Locations of the units were as follows: 1st Battalion, F-006370, 2nd Battalion F-007360, 3rd Battalion, F-002365.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, attacked northwest at 0800 hours and by 1300 had captured the road junction at F-039447. Heavy artillery and mortar fire was received from the direction of MERODE (F-0545), but the Battalion continued to advance, reaching F-039445. Again extremely heavy mortar and artillery fire was encountered. The Battalion reported 150 rounds of artillery and a like number of mortar shells every 20 minutes. The 2nd Battalion attacked east but made very little progress. Companies E and G reached F-034437 and F-024426, respectively, with the remainder of the Battalion at F-027435. The 3rd Battalion remained assembled to the rear of the 1st Battalion.

In the center of the Division zone, the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, attacked at 0800 hours and by 0943 had encountered a defensive line from F-017436 to SCHONTHAL (F-0245). Progress was slow against heavy resistance. At 1000 the Battalion was at F-016461 and at 1228 the left flank was at F-016462. Opposition included small arms, mortar and artillery fire. Company B counter-attacked by enemy tanks and infantry from the west at 1530. Our own artillery fire was very effective in repulsing this enemy attack which was completely broken by 1700 hours. The enemy attacked again at 1720 hours. This second attack was broken up by our artillery and mortar fire by 1800. Final positions were at F-015465 - F-019464. The 2nd Battalion also began its attack at 0800 hours. At 1000 Company G moved to outflank the enemy positions in SCHONTHAL from the east and advanced to F-027458. The enemy counter-attacked at 1405, and although it was quickly repulsed it slowed down the advance. By this time Company G had pushed forward 400 yards and regrouped on HILL 210 (F-029455) which had been taken after hard fighting. Positions were consolidated with Companies G and F at F-028460 and F-020457 and the rest of the Battalion at F-023458. The 3rd Battalion remained in the vicinity of F-013455.

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No attack was made by the 16th Infantry during the day. The 2nd Battalion continued to hold positions with the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, north of BOVENBERGER WALD, and the 1st Battalion moved to an assembly area in the STAATS FOREST in the vicinity of K-9939. The 3rd Battalion, north of road junction 225 (F-0044), conducted reconnaissance in preparation for a coordinated attack with the 18th Infantry. Artillery forward observers with the 3rd Battalion adjusted Field Artillery units on a large concentration of enemy forming for a counter-attack 2000 yards north of HEISTERN (F-0145) and the subsequent fire broke up the concentration.

After two days of fighting HILL 187 was captured by the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry. A large number of enemy dead were found on the Hill when it was occupied in the afternoon. A platoon from Company A occupied HILL 167 (K-993462) and a road block was established on the road running northeast to southwest across the Hill. The remainder of the 47th Infantry continued to hold the same defensive positions as the previous day.

The 4th Cavalry Group, less the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, was attached to the 1st Division at 1200 hours and was to relieve the 2nd Battalion, 26th Infantry, the next day.

104th Infantry Division

At 0800 the 1st Battalion, 414th Infantry, attacked from the vicinity of BERGRATH (K-9746) toward the northeast and was forced to fight its way from house to house. By 1100 the Battalion had advanced 300 yards. In the afternoon more rapid progress was made and the objective high ground and road centers northeast of ESCHWEILER were occupied at 1700 after an advance of about 3 kilometers. Final positions were K-975480 - K-979481. The 2nd Battalion was initially held up by heavy small arms and mortar fire when it attacked in the morning, but in the later part of the period moved rapidly to advance 2500 yards and occupy the high ground north of NOTHBERG at 1800 and then continued to the INDE River where positions were organized at K-980472 - K-985472. At 1430 the 3rd Battalion moved from an assembly area to pass through the 2nd Battalion and advance to the objective, WEISWEILER. At 1800 positions held by the forward elements of the 2nd Battalion were reached and the 3rd Battalion continued its advance to K-989476.

At 0300 the 415th Infantry put into execution its plan for a night attack within ESCHWEILER and Companies A and C attacked abreast advancing through the city to reach the railroad in the center of ESCHWEILER at 0610 hours. The attack carried the initiative, with the element of surprise, and many enemy surrendered with little opposition. By 1100 the northern outskirts of ESCHWEILER were reached. This night attack placed ESCHWEILER in our hands by 1110 hours with a minimum loss es the 2nd Battalion attacked at 0800 and by 1130 had reached the northern limits of the city. The 3rd Battalion remained in the vicinity of ATSCH (K-9243).

The 3rd Battalion, 413th Infantry, attacked at 0800 to seize and clear PUTZLOHN. The Battalion moved against continuous resistance until pinned down on the outskirts of the objective by fire from within PUTZLOHN. Positions were held at K-992519 - K-992513 with Company L at K-989509.

3rd Armored Division

WERTH (K-9743), HASTENRATH (K-9744), SCHERPENSEEL (K-9844) and KOTTENICH (K-9943) continued to be occupied by elements of Combat Command Boudinot, while Combat Command Hickey remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of BUSBACH

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(K-9240), and the Division Reserve remained in assembly positions in the vicinity of MAUSBACH (K-9740).

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 219 missions as follows: 29 preparation, 37 personnel, 16 mortar and machine gun, 59 close support, 7 counterbattery, 8 tank, 62 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6030.

4th Division: Fired 217 missions as follows: 3 preparation, 40 personnel, 13 mortar and machine gun, 47 close support, 27 counterbattery, 83 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous: Rounds expended: 7173.

104th Division: Fired 125 missions as follows: 30 personnel, 19 mortar and machine gun, 1 counterbattery, 43 interdiction and harassing, and 32 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5075.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 41 missions - 2 preparation, 9 personnel, 16 close support, 13 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous - an expenditure of 856 rounds.

Corps: Fired 129 missions as follows: 29 counterbattery, 5 preparation, 6 personnel, 22 close support, 8 tank, 67 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2537.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 40 missions - 1 personnel, 22 close support, 4 counterbattery, 1 tank, and 12 interdiction and harassing - an expenditure of 149 rounds.

A total of 21,820 rounds was fired by Corps and Division Artilleries, bringing the grand total expended during the first 7 days of the offensive to 204,978, about twice as great an amount as the previous high total for a week.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600. The 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn fired missions for VII Corps Arty on 6 cross roads, between 1700 and 1725 with 10 rounds being fired on each cross road. The fire was unobserved.

Tank Destroyers: The 803rd TD Bn fired 640 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 310.

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Although heavy opposition was met on all fronts substantial gains were made in the center of the Corps zone and on both flanks. Another successful night attack was made by the 104th Division and enemy counter-attacks were repulsed by both the 1st and 4th Divisions. Heavy fighting continued for BUTZLOHN (K-9951) and other elements advanced to WEISWEILER (K-0048).

Following a night in which light artillery fire was the only activity on the part of the enemy, he began a series of small counter-attacks which lasted throughout the day. The first of these was launched at 0703, two miles southwest of MERODE (K-0545) in the wooded area of K-0342. This attack, unsupported by

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tanks was contained, and by 0830 the enemy had returned to prepare defenses in the forest. However at 1000, another enemy force composed of elements of the 48Sth Volksgrenadier Division attacked from the north against our troops one mile west of METRODE. Two more attacks, one composed of remnants of the 103rd and 115th Regiments of the 47th Volksgrenadier Division, and the other starting at 2040, and composed of about 100 infantry supported by six tanks, were launched in the vicinity of F-0147 one mile southeast of WEISWEILER. As in the case of the preceding attacks, these two offensive efforts on the part of the enemy also failed to gain ground, but his active defense prevented our cutting the LANGERWEHE (F-0247) - DUREN (F-1246) Highway.

Continued cool, cloudy weather with intermittent rains made visibility too poor for any air support of the Corps attack and no missions were executed by the IX Tactical Air Command in VII Corps zone.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Local gains and limited objectives were achieved in the southern (right) portion of the Division zone; positions were improved in the center, and an advance was made through the forest north and west of GROSSHAU (F-0538).

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, and 4th Cavalry Group, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): After hard fighting elements gained possession of 1/2 of HILL 203 (F-022468). Good progress was made on the left of the Division zone with elements capturing an enemy strong point in the vicinity of F-014473 to advance about one mile.

104th Infantry Division: A successful night attack enabled units to advance to the western edge of WEISWEILER; other units continued to fight for HETZLOHN, and DURWISS was mopped up. HILL 155 (F-004504) was relinquished to the enemy in the morning but regained again during the afternoon.

3rd Armored Division: Remained in an assembly area and performed maintenance and rehabilitation. There was no change in the location of units.

4th Infantry Division

The Division attacked to seize the high ground west of FLERTHAU (F-0537) - GROSSHAU (F-0538), and the area: Trail junction (F-014428) and road junction (F-014423). On the right flank the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry, attacked at 1000 to secure the limited objective at F-022360. Many minefields and heavy enemy artillery fire were encountered but at 1630 the road at F-018360 was cut and this position was secured for the night. The 1st Battalion sent patrols to its front at F-022366 and F-019372 which encountered several enemy patrols and a German strong point at F-019373. A number of prisoners were taken during the day by the 1st and 2nd Battalions. The 3rd Battalion remained in place throughout the period.

At 0900 the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 8th Infantry, attacked to the east in the direction of the high ground in the WENAU FOREST and encountered heavy small arms resistance which continued all day. The 2nd Battalion advanced 800 yards due east in this difficult terrain to the edge of the objective high ground while the 3rd Battalion progressed slightly more than a kilometer to occupy positions on the northern part of the objective. Final positions were: 2nd Battalion, F-035409 - F-035418 with Company E at F-032409 - F-032412; 3rd Battalion, F-038424 - F-042423 - F-044418. At 0703 the 1st Battalion was counter-attacked and was engaged with the enemy until 0910 when the enemy forces were completely broken and forced to withdraw into the forest. The Battalion then pushed northeast and

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gained more than a kilometer during the day to reach F-032430 - F-036423.

Positions occupied at the close of the previous period were maintained by the 22nd Infantry, and the roads throughout the area improved. Mines were also removed during the day. A small counter-attack against the 1st Battalion at 0838 was quickly repulsed, aided by heavy fire support. The 3rd Battalion pushed forward about 100 yards to secure better positions for the next day's operations. The 24 Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued to hold positions at F-033389 - F-033384 and F-021385 - F-019375.

1st Infantry Division

Efforts on the part of the Division to seize the LANGERWEHE, MERODE, SCHLICH (F-0645) area in order to be in positions to attack to gain crossings of the RUR (ROER) River produced fair gains with some units advancing to within a kilometer of their objectives. The 2nd Battalion of the 26th Infantry attacked at 0800 to secure F-034438 and by 1000 Company E was strongly counter-attacked from the northeast (vicinity of F-032435). Artillery and 4.2 mortars were used against the enemy and by 1040 the counter-attack was stopped. Company G then passed through Company E enroute to F-034438 which was captured at 1200. At 1700 Company E was relieved by Troop A, with Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron of the 4th Cavalry Group on the line at F-033437 - F-033432 and was withdrawn to F-027437. The rest of the Battalion took up positions at F-034438. At 0900 the 3rd Battalion attacked northeast. Company L seized HILL 153 (F-029452) at 1053, and Company K passed through Company L at 1125, advancing to F-032451 where strong resistance was encountered. By that time Company I had established contact with Company G, 18th Infantry, 300 yards south of F-026455. The attack of the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, progressed to F-042454 - F-035450 at 1700 hours and positions were consolidated in this vicinity for the night. The 1st Battalion which had remained in Regimental Reserve at F-039445 moved at 2009 hours to close the gap between them and the 3rd Battalion and took up positions at F-040444 with Company C at F-038449.

After a patrol from Company F, 18th Infantry, had drawn fire in SCHONTHAL (F-0245) during the early morning prior to light, the 2nd Battalion renewed its attack to the east at 0700. Leading elements of Company G on the right advanced to the head of the draw at F-025445 by 1130 and made contact with the 26th Infantry. By 1800 the 2nd Battalion had advanced slowly to F-029460 and F-024460. The 1st Battalion attacked northeast at 0715. Company B reached KUMMERBUSCH (F-0246) at 0843 and was engaged with the enemy in a fight for the high ground to the north of the village. By 1130 the Company had moved to within 100 yards of HILL 203 (F-022468) which was occupied by the enemy. This action continued during the afternoon with Company A moving up to the rear of Company B to support the attack, and by 1800 half of the Hill had been cleared. Positions were consolidated in the vicinity of F-021468. Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion moved from HEISTERN (F-0145) at 0900 past the right flank of the 1st Battalion and attacked north, Company I on the right contained SCHONTHAL and elements of the Battalion advanced forward to positions at F-014450 - F-015456.

At 0510 the 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry moved to an attack assembly area at HEISTERN and attacked with two companies abreast at 0730 in conjunction with Combat Team 18 on the right. Heavy small arms and mortar fire was encountered at 0930 and progress was slow. A fortified area in the vicinity of F-013473 held up the advance in the afternoon, but by 1800 tanks and infantry had captured this

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strong point and Company I progressed to F-013470, and the remainder of the Battalion held positions from F-015473 to F-013468. The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry held front line positions and were prepared to attack the next morning to the left of the 18th Infantry, while the 1st Battalion remained in reserve.

The attached 47th Infantry attacked at 0610 with the 2nd Battalion advancing rapidly to reach NOTHBERG (K-9846) by 0750. Contact was made with the 414th Infantry (104th Division) on the left in the factory at K-989478. Final positions of the 2nd Battalion were in the vicinity of K-987467. There was no change among other units.

104th Infantry Division

The 104th Division continued its attack to seize WEISWEILER, FRENZ (F-0149) and INDEN (F-0252) with the 414th Infantry conducting another successful night operation. Two attacks were made by this Regiment, one at dusk and one at dark, both of which resulted in gains which it had not been able to achieve in the day time. During the night the 3rd Battalion advanced to a position 1500 yards west of WEISWEILER. From here the Battalion was unable to advance, being held up by heavy fire from a slag heap to its left flank (2000 yards west of WEISWEILER) and from the town itself. At 1830 the Battalion attacked again, reaching the outskirts of WEISWEILER, and at 2200 hours was still advancing. At the close of the period the 3rd Battalion was at K-992486 - K-995482. During the night the (22/23 November) the 1st Battalion guided the 2nd Battalion across the canal to its zone of Objective 3, (K-973481 - K-984479) where the 2nd Battalion remained at K-980479 - K-992482, until 1700. Then Company F and Company C attacked together toward the slag heap, west of WEISWEILER, with Company F on the right. At 1810 Company C gained the high ground of the slag heap, from which it routed the enemy, taking a number of prisoners. Company F also took a number of prisoners and this action greatly relieved the pressure against the 3rd Battalion. Positions of the 1st and 2nd Battalions at the close of the period were in the vicinity of K-979481 and K-982480, respectively, with Company C at K-982485 and Company F at K-982482.

In the zone of the 413th Infantry on the left flank of the Division, Company L attacked at 0500 and seized HILL 155 (K-994504) at 0750. At 0800 the attack on PUTZLOHN was renewed with Company K securing a portion of the southwestern section of the town. Vigorous counter-attacks were launched by the enemy from the northeast. Companies K and L both repulsed several attacks with the latter driving off one attack made by tank supported infantry from the vicinity of WEISWEILER. One of these attacks penetrated a platoon area, but was repulsed after some of the most severe fighting of the operation. At 1200 Company L withdrew to a position 400 yards to the northwest. Company C moved from DURWISS and made contact with Company L at about 1330 and by 1500 HILL 155 had been seized against moderate resistance and reoccupied. Company B moved from DURWISS late in the afternoon and relieved Company K under the cover of darkness. The 2nd Battalion assembled to the west of its previous position at K-945488, and the 3rd Battalion held positions at K-980525 with Company K at K-994513 and Company L at K-990510. Companies C and B held positions at K-993504 and K-993518, respectively, with the remainder of the 1st Battalion in DURWISS (K-9749).

The 3rd Battalion, 415th Infantry, closed in the vicinity of SCHWEILER (K-9746) at 1110 hours where the 1st and 2nd Battalions continued to remain.

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Artillery

1st Division: Fired 201 missions as follows: 21 preparation, 24 personnel, 11 mortar and machine gun, 6 close support, 23 counterbattery, 15 tank, 91 interdiction and harassing, and 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6160.

4th Division: Fired 268 missions as follows: 2 preparation, 6 personnel, 10 mortar and machine gun, 54 close support, 47 counterbattery, 125 interdiction and harassing, and 24 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 8542.

104th Division: Fired 161 missions as follows: Fired 44 personnel, 25 machine gun and mortar, 1 counterbattery, 11 tank, 45 interdiction and harassing, and 35 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5483.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 49 missions - 3 preparation, 9 personnel, 8 close support, 26 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous - an expenditure of 2392 rounds.

Corps: Fired 149 missions as follows: 11 preparation, 20 personnel, 12 close support, 16 counterbattery, 16 tank, 60 interdiction and harassing, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4447.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 42 missions, expending 278 rounds as follows: 9 personnel, 4 close support, 5 counterbattery, 24 interdiction and harassing. Total rounds fired by Corps and Division Artilleries were 27,302.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: The 634th TD Bn (SP) fired 28 rounds of 3" HE and 2 rounds of 3" APC direct fire. A number of close support missions were fired by the 692nd TD Bn which expended 50 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire. The 803rd TD Bn (SP) fired 1400 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing and close support missions, and 3 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, destroying a machine gun and killing the crew of 5 enemy personnel.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 353.

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The VII Corps attack was continued toward the RUR River and met stubborn resistance in the center of the zone and on the left flank while opposition on the right flank decreased. PUTZLOEM (F-9951), HUCHELN (F-0047), JAGENBAUS (F-0342) and a factory at RAVENBURG (F-9946) were captured. Counter-attacks in the center of the Corps zone were repulsed, although one resulted in a slight loss of ground. During the day over 500 prisoners were taken.

Through the entire period the enemy continued to defend stubbornly the WEISWEILER (F-0048) - LANGERWEHE (F-0247) area and to counter-attack repeatedly any gains made by our forces toward the LANGERWEHE - DUREN (F-1246) Road. After a heavy mortar preparation at 0400 hours, enemy infantry, supported by four or five tanks, struck from the northeast against our troops in the vicinity of F-0147, approximately 1 mile southeast of WEISWEILER. Again at 0900 an attack was launched from the northwest against our troops at F-0[illegible]66, southwest of LANGERWEHE. These two attacks failed with a loss to the enemy of his tanks.

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However, at 1515 a third attack launched by the 15th Storm Battal[illegible] south of LANGERWEHE into the area of F-028467, met with some success, as the enemy regained control of ridge lines 161 (F-029464) and 160 (F-033463), 3/4 of a mile south of LANGERWEHE.

In the PUTZLOHN area the enemy fought hard throughout the morning and early afternoon, but at 1530 he yielded PUTZLOHN and was forced to give up the high ground to the east thereof - ground he had held on to tenaciously for the preceding forty-eight hours. Also in the forest area north of HUERTGEN (F-0355) the enemy slowly yielded ground west of KLEINHAU (F-0537), although he strengthened his line by moving in the 3rd Battalion, 1056th Regiment, 89th Division, which had been in a less active sector to the south.

All air support was curtailed due to the continued cool, cloudy weather and intermittent rains, which also kept the ground in the state of a virtual quagmire and made movement of armored vehicles extremely difficult.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Slow but steady progress continued in the heavily wooded area west of GROSSHAU (F-0538). HILL 277 (F-038428), JAGERHAUS (F-0342) and a limited objective at F-046427 were captured. Road nets were also improved for future operations.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, and 4th Cavalry Group, less the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Repulsed a counter-attack prior to daylight, another in the mid-morning, and was forced to yield ground during a third attack in the afternoon. Hard fighting continued for HILL 203 (F-022468). Progress was made south of WEISWEILER with the wooded area being cleared to the railroad tracks below the town.

3rd Armored Division: Task Force Richardson (3rd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, reinforced, with 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry attached) of Combat Command Hickey attacked and captured HUCHELN (F-000474) in the afternoon. All other elements remained in previous assembly positions and continued maintenance and rehabilitation.

104th Infantry Division: Prior to daylight elements of the 414th Infantry withdrew under pressure but later regained the lost ground. House to house fighting on the western edge of WEISWEILER continued, while PUTZLOHN was mopped up and FRONHOVEN (K-9852) was occupied.

4th Infantry Division

The 12th Infantry continued the attack to the east at 0[illegible]00 with the 3rd Battalion passing through the outpost line held by the 1st Battalion to reach a limited objective in the vicinity of F-031366 by 1100 hours. Positions were held from F-030364 to F-031369. The 2nd Battalion also made local gains during the day and made contact with the 121st Infantry (8th Division) on the right. Forward elements held the high ground in the vicinity of F-023361 with the rest of the Battalion at F-015359. The 1st Battalion cleared small groups of enemy from rear areas and established contact with the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron on the Regimental left (north) flank. The 1st Battalion assembled in the vicinity of F-997362.

In the center of the Division zone the 22nd Infantry maintained and consolidated positions and continued the removal of mines, improving road nets and main

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supply routes within the zone. Plans were completed to continue the attack east on 25 November.

When the 9th Infantry continued the attack east at 0830 stiff opposition was offered by the enemy, but the 1st Battalion advanced and reached the objective high ground of HILL 277 (F-038428) and the well fortified area in and around JAGERHAUS (F-035425) by 1220. The 2nd Battalion advanced slowly throughout the period to the vicinity of F-041441 where the Battalion halted and preparations were begun for resuming the attack the next day. The 1st Battalion, less Company A, moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-031444, late in the period leaving Company A and the 3rd Battalion in position to retain objectives gained in the vicinity of F-047430 - F-049426 - F-045421 - F042423 - F044425 - F-045420 with Company A at F-035425.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, continued the attack at 0800 and by 0815 the Battalion was at F-038445. Company G was relieved by a 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance troop. By 1200 Company G had reached the objective (F-041448) and made contact with the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, on the left. Meanwhile the 3rd and 2nd Battalions had consolidated on the eastern and southern edge of the initial objective, the high ground in the forest west of MERODE. The 3rd Battalion held positions at F-035453 - F-040453 - F-040449, and the 2nd Battalion at F-029445.

The fight for HILL 203 (F-021469) was resumed by the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, at 0717 and by 0830 the Battalion was heavily engaged. The enemy counter-attacked from the northeast at 0900. This attack was repulsed in an hour, but hard fighting continued for the Hill and no gains were made in the early afternoon. By 1900 Company A pushed abreast of Company B at F-024467 and had good observation of LANGERWEHE (F-0247). A renewed but unsuccessful attack was launched against HILL 203 with the action continuing until after 2118. Positions were later consolidated at F-020469 - F-023465. After cleaning out SCHONTHAL (F-0245) in the morning the 2nd Battalion advanced toward HILL 203 with Company F reaching F-023446 and Company G F-027446 at 1400 hours against heavy enemy resistance. At 1500 the 2nd Battalion was counter-attacked on the right flank and at 1600 the enemy delivered a strong attack all along the line with fresh infantry troops from the northeast, but was repulsed by mortar and artilleryfire. Again the enemy renewed his efforts and at 1900 forced Companies F, G, and E to withdraw with Company C suffering heavy casualties. The ground along the ridge lines 161 (F-029464) and 160 (F-032463) was relinquished by our troops which fell back to positions at F-022460 - F-025461 - F-028458. The 3rd Battalion remained in the vicinity of HEISTERN (F-0145) with Company I at F-019459.

At 0730 the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, attacked with Companies E and G abreast. A fire fight developed on the hill at F-008474, but by 1200 Company E had gained possession of that terrain and Company G was at F-011474. The Battalion then advanced slowly and secured the general line F-004474 - F-005476 - F-010474 and by 1600 had cleared the woods to the railroad tracks south of WEISWEILER, except for the northwestern corner. All around defensive positions were organized and contact established with the 3rd Battalion to the right by 1845, and reconnaissance begun in preparation for renewing the attack in the morning. The 700 yard gap between the 1st and 2nd Battalions was protected by outposts. The 3rd Battalion reorganized and strengthened its defensive sector at F-011473 - F-015472. An outpost from Company I covered the gap between this Battalion and the 18th Infantry.

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The 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry was operating with elements of Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division as Task Force Richardson and clearing HUCHELN (F-0047). The 1st Battalion remained in an assembly area from K-979467 -K-979463. The 3rd Battalion held positions at F-000461 - F-003461 with Company K at K-999469. The 4th Cavalry Group held F-039444 and F-033432, and plugged the gap between the 8th and 26th Infantry Regiments.

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Hickey was ordered to organize a task force with the attached 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, to attack northeast from the vicinity of K-988475 to secure the high ground between LANGERWEHE and FRENZ. Task Force Richardson (2nd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, reinforced with 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry attached) was organized and attacked at 1445 and advanced against strong enemy opposition to F-001474. After clearing and securing HUCHELN, the Task Force moved just east of the town prepared to resume the attack the next morning. There was no change in the disposition or location of other units.

104th Infantry Division

Following a night of harassing Field and Antiaircraft Artillery fire on WEISWEILER, the 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, attacked to take the town. Slight progress was made against determined resistance. The attack was renewed at 1200 and during the course of the day gains of about 900 yards were made. Positions were consolidated for the night at K-992468 - K-995482. During the day the 1st Battalion mopped up enemy pockets of resistance to the northwest of the attacking 3rd Battalion. At 1650 the 1st Battalion attacked east and by 1715 leading elements had gained 1500 yards and were abreast of and to the left of the 3rd Battalion. Positions were organized at K-991491 - K-993487 with Company C at K-975-483. The 2nd Battalion held positions in the vicinity of K-982480 with Company F at K-982487.

During the night Company K, less one platoon, 413th Infantry, was relieved by Company C. This Company which had spent the day (23 November) fighting and gaining HILL 155 (K-984504), improved its defensive positions before light in preparation for an enemy attack but no attempt was made by the Germans to regain this important ground. At 0800 Company B commenced mopping-up operations in PUTZLOCH, completing the mission by 1130. Patrols were sent east to the high ground 800 yards away. At 2230 the 3rd Battalion closed in PRONHOVEN.

The 415th Infantry continued to remain in reserve in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647).

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 173 missions as follows: 10 preparation, 28 personnel, 10 mortar and machine gun, 14 close support, 24 counterbattery, 74 interdiction and harassing, 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3597.

4th Division: Fired 170 missions as follows: 30 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 31 close support, 20 counterbattery, 76 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4840.

104th Division: Fired 147 missions as follows: 27 preparation, 23 personnel, 29 mortar and machine gun, 2 close support, 7 counterbattery, 3 tank, 48

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interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3871.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 47 missions as follows: 14 preparation, 5 personnel, 24 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1417.

Corps: Fired 108 missions as follows: 20 preparation, 8 personnel, 5 mortar and machine gun, 11 close support, 13 counterbattery, 41 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2389.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 16 missions as follows: 14 preparation and 2 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 87.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600. The 116th AAA Gun Bn fired missions for VII Corps Arty on enemy artillery positions in the vicinity of F-0749, expending 60 rounds of unobserved 90mm fire.

Tank Destroyers: The 803rd TD Bn expended 560 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 507.

25 NOVEMBER 1944

The Corps continued its attacks capturing important intermediate objectives, the high ground overlooking the towns of GROSSHAU (F-0538) and KLEINHAU (F-0537), and cut the WEISWEILER (E-9948) - LANGERWEHE (F-0247) - DUREN (F-1246) Highway, the enemy's main supply and withdrawal route. House to house fighting continued for WEISWEILER with our forces making fair progress in cleaning up the town. Limited advances were made in the center of the Corps zone of action.

The series of enemy counter-attacks that characterized the preceding 48 hours were not repeated during the day as the enemy fought only from his defensive positions. After a night of harassing artillery fire along the Corps front, the enemy met our advances from the south toward LANGERWEHE with fires of all calibers. The stubborn defense of HILL 203 (F-022468) continued and although the enemy lost a strong point on the Hill, he remained on the northern slopes with our forces on the southern. In WEISWEILER the enemy yielded the western two-thirds of the town, but only after having been driven from house to house. However from observations of air OP's it was noted that enemy troops were moving during the afternoon from the town to the east and northeast in the direction of LANGERWEHE and LANGERSDORF (F-0250) respectively. Further to the north indications were that the enemy, having been forced from the high ground southeast of PUMZLOCH, (F-9951), had withdrawn to the east across the open terrain to INDEN (F-0252) and along the INDEN River.

East of WEISWEILER the enemy fought back with anti-tank guns and mortars against our forces that cut the LANGERWEHE - DUREN Road, but he made no effort to repel the force by a counter-attack. Again in the forest area north of HURTGEN (F-0435) the enemy was forced back slowly. Using mortars and self-propelled weapons from the concealment of the woods east and northeast of GROSSHAU he prevented our exit from the woods into the cleared area surrounding the village. This same action was met when our forces approached the clearing at KLEINHAU.

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25 November

Despite broken clouds in the morning and rain late in the period, the IX Tactical Air Command supported the attack of the 1st and 104th Divisions and Task Force Richardson with two groups of fighter-bombers. Results were reported as excellent.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Made local gains, netting a limited objective at F-047407, and reached a position from which to assist Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division, in its attack on HURTGEN (F-0435). Repulsed a small enemy counter-attack.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, less 2nd Battalion, and 4th Cavalry Group, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Made small gains mopping up isolated enemy resistance in the vicinity of F-001163, and captured a strong point on the southern slope of HILL 203 (F-022168).

3rd Armored Division (2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, attached): Task Force Richardson attacked and made good progress despite strong resistance and the muddy terrain to cut the LANZERATHE - WEISWEILER Road in the vicinity of F-013182, capturing the town of WILDENBURG (F-002178).

104th Infantry Division: Consolidated positions east of [illegible] other elements [illegible] about 2/3 of WEISWEILER in hard house to house fighting.

4th Infantry Division

The Division attacked in conjunction with Combat Command R, 5th Armored Division on its right to seize GROSSHAU, and assist in the seizure of the HURTGEN-KLEINHAU area. The 12th Infantry attacked at 0830 to secure limited objectives, F-042370 - F-038364 - F-030360. By 1100 the 2nd Battalion had reached its objective at F-035357 and was in position to assist the attack of Combat Command R on HURTGEN (F-0435). Upon reaching its objective the 2nd Battalion consolidated positions and began cleaning up by-passed enemy in the rear areas. The 3rd Battalion which had attacked in very difficult terrain, seized and secured the high ground at F-030367 and mopped up by-passed enemy to the rear. The 1st Battalion moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-020375, closing there at 1030 and sent out patrols to clear small enemy groups from the woods adjacent to the main supply route of the ROT. Contact was established with the 2nd Battalion, 121st Infantry, and 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, on the right and left by the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry.

At 0730 the 22nd Infantry attacked to capture GROSSHAU and to secure the high ground in the vicinity of F-044376. The 3rd Battalion in its attack on the town encountered heavy resistance from a well fortified enemy using many anti-tank weapons, small arms, mortars and artillery. The 2nd Battalion succeeded in capturing and securing the high ground at F-044376 and at the end of the period were in position to fire at KLEINHAU and GROSSHAU. The 1st Battalion moved forward behind the 3rd Battalion, mopping up by-passed enemy and protecting roads. Final locations of units at the close of the period were as follows: 3rd Battalion, F-046386 - F-049384 - F-047383; 2nd Battalion, F-045376; 1st Battalion, F-039389 - F-043385.

Attacking in rough terrain at 1130 and against stiff opposition composed of small arms and mortar fire, the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, advanced slowly to seize its objective, F-047407, at 1400 hours. Upon reaching the objective

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the 2nd Battalion was counter-attacked by the enemy who employed small arms and mortar fires. The attack was unsupported and was repulsed. By 1530 the 2nd Battalion was in the process of consolidating positions and clearing rear areas of by-passed enemy. The 3rd Battalion continued to occupy positions won the previous day and the 1st Battalion moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-013415 with Company A moving from F-035425 to join the Battalion at 0800.

1st Infantry Division

Renewing the attack on HILL 203 at 0730, the 18th Infantry made very little progress against determined enemy resistance. During the morning Company B succeeded in reducing enemy installations on the Hill but the enemy still continued to resist stubbornly. Supported by 2 tanks Company B renewed its efforts at 1630 hours and captured an enemy strong point on the south slope of the Hill. Company A was committed to attack the Hill from the east and at 2200 heavy fighting was still in progress. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion held the southern slope of the Hill with positions from F-020469 to F-025468. During the day fortified houses around KUMMERBUSCH (F-0246) were completely destroyed. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions remained in previously captured positions except for Company F which moved about 350 yards northeast to a position to the right of rear elements of the 1st Battalion at F-025462 - F-028462.

The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry attacked at 0730 to clear the enemy from the woods to their front. After encountering considerable opposition the 2nd Battalion succeeded in clearing the woods to the railroad tracks. Positions were consolidated at F-005474 - F-010474. Company F was at F-016474 with Companies K and L protecting its left flank. Other units of the Regiment remained in the same positions as the previous day.

Positions were consolidated by the 26th Infantry as all units remained in place during the day. Plans were made for renewing the attack the next day. Units of the attached 47th Infantry also held previous positions except for the 2nd Battalion which was attached to Task Force Richardson of the 3rd Armored Division. The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, reinforced, continued to block to the east and patrol to the flanks in that direction.

3rd Armored Division

While Combat Command Boudinot continued to remain in previously occupied positions, Task Force Richardson of Combat Command Hickey attacked to secure the high ground between LANGERWEHE and FRENZ (F-0149) and to secure the area HUCHELN (F-9947) - SCHILDCHEN (F-0048) - crossings of the AUTOBAHN and the INDE River (F-012493). Progress was slow due to extremely muddy terrain and stubborn enemy resistance which consisted of mines, artillery, anti-tank, and small arms fire. By 1700 the town of WILHELMSHOHE was secured and at the close of the period forward elements occupied a line from IMGENEN to WEISMETLER (F-007485 - F-012483 - F-013480). Other units continued to hold the same positions as at the close of the previous day.

104th Infantry Division

The 414th Infantry continued its attack on WEISWEILER and supported by Air, tanks and artillery fought its way into the center of the town. The 1st Battalion renewed its attack at 0730. Throughout the day the fighting continued with the enemy defending stubbornly from house to house and strong points in the town.

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By 1700 hours Company B had gained 400 yards and Company C had advanced about 800 yards. At this time the Battalion was ordered to hold and reorganize along the line K-008496 - F-001490. The 3rd Battalion also attacked at the same time as the 1st Battalion and at 0825 hours Companies L and K were surrounded by enemy. Tanks and a platoon of the 104th Reconnaissance Troop were committed and reinforced the two beleagured companies, and after very hard fighting the situation was alleviated by 1215. The 2nd Battalion passed through the 3rd Battalion at 1520 and the 3rd Battalion began mopping up operations in the vicinity of the high ground on the western outskirts of WEISWEILER. The 2nd Battalion continued forward and fought its way abreast of the 1st Battalion advancing 1000 yards to reach the vicinity of F-001490 - F-004484. The 3rd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of K-994483.

Another successful night attack was carried out in the zone of the 413th Infantry when the 1st Battalion attacked at 0045 to secure the commanding ground 500 yards east of PUTZLOHN. The push was led by Company A and opposition was relatively light with the objective at F-005516 - F-002509 being occupied at 0245 by Company A. The remainder of the day was spent in organizing defenses of the captured ground. Companies B and C held positions at PUTZLOHN and K-995502, respectively. The 2nd Battalion remained in DURWISS (K-9749), and the 3rd Battalion in FROMHOVEN (K-9852).

All units of the 415th remained in assembly areas in Reserve in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647).

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 189 missions as follows: 4 preparation, 15 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 20 close support, 19 counterbattery, 1 tank, 107 harassing and interdiction, and 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4001.

4th Division: Fired 207 missions as follows: 30 personnel, 8 mortar and machine gun, 30 close support, 14 counterbattery, 86 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6936.

104th Division: Fired 153 missions as follows: 6 preparation, 17 personnel, 18 mortar and machine gun, 30 close support, 23 counterbattery, 1 tank, 36 interdiction and harassing, and 52 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3434.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 2 preparation, 6 personnel, 1 morter and machine gun, 7 close support, 2 tank, 5 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous missions, an expenditure of 3270 rounds on 26 missions.

Corps: Fired 225 missions as follows: 46 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 43 close support, 12 interdiction and harassing, 115 counterbattery, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3284.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 32 missions - 9 preparation, 6 counterbattery, 11 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 246.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy craft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 hours.

Tank Destroyers: The 692nd TD Bn expended 30 rounds of 3" HE and 36 rounds of 3" APC, both direct fire, at enemy strong points, and 12 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on an enemy OP. The 803rd TD Bn expended 548 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions.

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25 November SECRET

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 687.

26 NOVEMBER 1944

Mopping up operations were completed in WEISWEILER (F-0048) and units advanced to the east seizing the town of FRENZ (F-0149) and the SCHLOSS at FRENZERBURG (F-0148). In the center of the Corps zone of action and on the right flank, local gains were made and positions readjusted in preparation for continuing the attack.

Again the enemy fought a defensive battle throughout the period, yielding only in the area northeast and east of WEISWEILER after having been forced to vacate the eastern outskirts of the town earlier in the day. Following a short but brisk fire fight the enemy gave up SCHLOSS FRENZERBURG (F-0148). Elements of the 47th Volksgrenadier Division, continued to hold the northern slopes of HILL 203 (F-022468), south of LANGERWEHE (F-0247) in spite of continuous artillery and mortar fire, while at the same time two strong points at F-022478 and F-023478 on the south side of the railroad below LANGERWEHE prevented any advance toward the town from the southwest. In the GROSSHAU (F-0538) area the enemy allowed a company patrol to cross the open fields and enter the built up area of the village before countering with 70 men and 4 tanks, and driving our patrol back to the woods. Attempts to infiltrate our positions one mile west of KLEINHAU (F-0537) failed.

The 1st and 104th Infantry Divisions were supported by four squadrons each of fighter-bombers and the 3rd Armored Division with two squadrons from the IX Tactical Air Command. Results were reported as very good to excellent by division and regimental units. LANGERWEHE was bombed as were DERICHSWEILER (F-0745) and JUNGERSDORF (F-0445).

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Made limited gains in the vicinity of F-040367), consolidated positions, and continued active patrolling and mopping up in rear areas.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, less 2nd Battalion, and 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, less the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron): Made local gains in the vicinity of F-022479. The fight for HILL 203 (F-022468) continued for the fourth day against stiff resistance. Cleared the wooded area of enemy to the railroad tracks southwest of LANGERWEHE between the 47th and 18th Infantry Regiments.

3rd Armored Division: Task Force Richardson, 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, attached, of Combat Command Hickey, captured the SCHLOSS at FRENZERBURG, an enemy strong point, and more of the REICHSAUTOBAHN - 4 lane military highway running from AACHEN (K-8343) to KOLN (F-4560) - and main ESCHWEILER (K-9647) - DUREN (F-1246) Road were captured.

104th Infantry Division: Advanced through and beyond WEISWEILER, and captured FRENZ.

4th Infantry Division

The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, attacked at 0800 and after fighting in difficult terrain against stubborn resistance reached its objective (F-040367) at 1630 hours. Positions were taken up at F-036370 - F-041369 - F-040365. The 1st

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Battalion continued to mop up enemy groups along the main supply route, and moved to a new location in the vicinity of F-027388. The 2nd Battalion held the same positions as the previous day.

Both the 22nd and 8th Infantry Regiments held the same positions, consolidating and preparing to resume the offensive the next day. The 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, was relieved by its 1st Battalion, and assembled in the vicinity of F-010415 at 1500 hours. Active and aggressive patrolling was maintained and mopping up of rear areas continued. A company patrol from the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry was attacked by about 75 enemy infantry, supported by 4 tanks, and driven back 200 yards on the right flank, before the counter-attack was driven off at about 1730 hours.

1st Infantry Division

Positions occupied the previous period were maintained by the 26th Infantry on the right flank of the 1st Division and patrol contact with the enemy maintained. During the day the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, attacked HILL 203 for the fourth day and worked to clear the north slopes of the Hill of enemy in preparation for the Regimental drive on LANGERWEHE.

The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry attacked at 0800 to clear the woods to the railroad tracks south of LANGERWEHE. By 1722 hours the enemy had been cleared and the 2nd Battalion held the whole woods. Contact was established with the 18th Infantry on HILL 203 and positions consolidated at F-018476 - F-017473. Late in the morning the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 47th Infantry, attacked north in conjunction with Task Force Richardson, 3rd Armored Division, and made local gains. At 1405 Company K had captured the built up area at F-019489, but at 1655 were withdrawn about 300 yards. Final positions were: 1st Battalion, F-022477 - F-020480 - F-019481; 3rd Battalion, Companies K, L and I at F-019489 - F-007482, and F-003-474, respectively.

3rd Armored Division

At 0800 Task Force Richardson of Combat Command Hickey with the 67th Armored Field Artillery Battalion in direct support, attacked to secure the high ground between FRENZ and LANGERWEHE. Tanks were unable to negotiate the terrain due to mud in the left sector and on the right were stopped by anti-tank fire from the direction of LANGERWEHE. The armored support was withdrawn to the vicinity of the road at F-010483 - F-015480 from which position they were used to support the infantry by direct fire. Progresswas slow during the morning due to heavy artillery, mortar and small arms fire. At 1400 a coordinated attack by infantry with air support and direct tank fire was launched. At 1530 infantry reached the SCHLOSS at F-019488 while the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry (attached to 1st Division) attacked to secure the ground at F-019482 - F-022478 which they gained. The 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, attached to Task Force Richardson, secured the ground at F-019482, clearing the enemy and organizing positions along the line: F-020492 - F-021487 - F-019486. Tanks of the 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, and elements of the 703rd Tank Destroyer Battalion remained in position in the vicinity of the road at F-010483 - F-015480.

Other elements of Combat Command Hickey, Combat Command Boudinot and the Division Reserve remained in previous positions without change.

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26 November

104th Infantry Division

At 0730 the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 414th Infantry, attacked at 0730 and by 0930 had advanced 500 yards. At 1000 the 414th Infantry Commanding Officer (Col Tourart) requested permission to continue on and take FRENZ instead of being passed through by the 415th Infantry. The request was granted and the 414th Infantry continued the advance, with Company B on the right and Company C on the left, and by 1125 both of the leading units had advanced another 500 yards where they were pinned down by artillery, mortar and small arms fire. At 1530 after a heavy artillery concentration the 1st and 2nd Battalions pushed forward again and by 1900 the leading companies were in the northeastern outskirts of FRENZ. The objective was secured during the evening.

The 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, remained in the same area that it occupied at the close of the previous period. The 415th Infantry continued in Reserve with the 3rd Battalion moving from ESCHWEILER and closing in WEISWEILER at 1930. Other units of the Regiment held previous positions. The 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry, moved from DURWISS at 1030 and closed in WEISWEILER at 1230. The 3rd Battalion, 413th Infantry, relieved its 1st Battalion in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER with Company I at 2230. After being relieved, the 1st Battalion moved to DURWISS, closing at 2325 hours.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 195 missions as follows: 29 preparation, 11 personnel, 11 mortar and machine gun, 14 close support, 13 counterbattery, 10 [illegible], 79 interdiction and harassing, and 23 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6347.

4th Division: Fired 190 missions as follows: 4 preparation, 9 personnel, 20 mortar and machine gun, 51 close support, 23 counterbattery, 74 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5695.

104th Division: Fired 147 missions as follows: 11 preparation, 17 personnel, 18 mortar and machine gun, 19 close support, 19 counterbattery, 56 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4120.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 130 missions as follows: 9 preparation, 3 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 19 close support, 19 counterbattery, 56 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4386.

Corps: Fired 134 missions as follows: 21 preparation, 5 personnel, 7 mortar and machine gun, 24 close support, 31 counterbattery, 33 interdiction and harassing, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2922.

32nd FA Brigade: Fired 22 missions, 14 counterbattery, 6 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous, expending 149 rounds.

Antiaircraft: One enemy craft was engaged by the 440th AAA AW Bn over WEISWEILER at 2000 with no claims.

Tank Destroyers: The 692nd TD Bn fired 13 rounds of 3" HE at enemy OP employing direct fire. On indirect fire missions, 318 rounds of 3" HE were fired on harassing missions. The 803rd TD Bn fired 560 rounds of 3" HE on harassing missions. The 634th TD Bn expended 26 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 411.

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27 NOVEMBER 1944

Despite heavy resistance offered by the enemy all along the entire Corps front our attack continued to make progress slowly. During the day the enemy was forced to yield HILL 203 (F-022468) and the village of GUT MERBERICH (F-020475) while other elements of VII Corps advanced into LANGERWEHE (F-0247) and JUNGERSDORF (F-0446).

Early in the period the enemy was forced to give up the strong point at GUT MERBERICH and the northern slopes of HILL 203. Prisoners of war taken at these two points revealed that the enemy had started relief of the 47th Volksgrenadier Division by units of the 3rd Parachute Division. Simultaneously with the reduction of the strong points, an estimated 80 men in a building of SCHLOSS FRENZERBURG (F-012489) refused to surrender although surrounded. Several unsuccessful attempts were made by elements of the 104th Regiment, 47th Volksgrenadier Division, to recapture FRENZERBURG and free the isolated group. At the end of the period they were continuing to resist.

Further to the north, in the areas of FRENZ (F-0149) and east of PUTZLOHN (K-9951) heavy artillery and mortar fire throughout the day, prevented the advance of our forces in those areas to the east. However, by mid-afternoon the enemy was unable to prevent our troops from advancing into LANGERWEHE and JUNGERSDORF from the south, and once again he was forced to resort to house to house fighting in order to prevent a complete evacuation of the towns. In GROSSHAU (F-0538) the enemy by employing dug-in tanks and assault guns, succeeded in repelling our attacks to take the town. Moreover, resistance throughout the GROSSHAU - ALTENHAU (F-0537) area was intensified as a result of the arrival of the 942nd Regiment, 353rd Infantry Division.

Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command supported the attacking infantry divisions of VII Corps. Two squadrons flew close support missions for the 104th and 1st Infantry Divisions each with results reported as excellent. In the vicinity of DUREN (F-1246) 5 trains were attacked.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron attached): Very little progress was made in the attack on GROSSHAU against determined enemy resistance. After being pinched out by the 121st Infantry, 8th Division (V Corps), the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 12th Infantry were withdrawn and moved to an assembly area.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team, and 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Captured GUT MERBERICH and HILL 203, taking a number of prisoners and advanced into the town of LANGERWEHE and JUNGERSDORF against extremely heavy opposition.

104th Infantry Division: Very heavy mortar and artillery fire between WEISWEILER (F-0614) and FRENZ (F-0149) prevented the daylight attack of the 413 Infantry. After dark the Regiment attacked and at the close of the period were on their line of departure.

3rd Armored Division: Task Force Richardson, 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, attached, having reached its objective, was relieved by the 1st Infantry Division with the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, reverting to 1st Division control. All units continued to occupy previously held positions.

4th Infantry Division

After being pinched out by the 121st Infantry, the 1st and 2nd Battalions moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-018375, while the 1st Battalion, less Company B, remained at F-028388. The 3rd Battalion continued to hold positions on the right flank at F-023371 - F-033371 - F-041346 with Companies K and L at F-048382 - F-048370.

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The 22nd Infantry supported the attack on GROSSHAU by fire and and at 0900 Company B was committed, attacking toward the town against very heavy resistance, advancing only 200 yards in two hours. At 1215 Company E also attacked to assist Company B (then located at F-045381). The two Companies were held up by dug-in tanks that swept the edge of the woods just west of GROSSHAU and no further advance was made. Other units retained previous positions.

No attack was made by the 8th Infantry. Previous positions were held and active patrolling maintained while Engineers cleared mines and improved roads in preparation for the next operation to the northeast.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division attacked to seize the JUNGERSDORF - LANGERWEHE - LUCHEM (F-0348) area. The 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, attacked at 1500 to capture JUNGERSDORF and advanced to F-038464 by 1600, meeting heavy opposition from thetown. Company L entered the town at 1915 with Company I moving in around Company L to the north while Company K held the high ground at F-039463. Positions were consolidated in the town and defenses prepared at F-040466 - F-042467 with Company K at F-042462. Company G moved to F-039463. Other units remained in place.

At 0650, the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, temporarily attached to the 18th Infantry, attacked enemy positions in GUT MERBERICH. Company A was counter-attacked in the vicinity of F-020476 at 0900 hours, but reported the situation under control at 0925. At 0930 Company C moved into GUT MERBERICH. Meanwhile Company C, 18th Infantry, renewed operations against HILL 203. At 0900 all enemy had been cleared from the reverse slope of the Hill, and the commanding ground on the crest was occupied by our troops. The 1st Battalion held positions in the vicinity of F-023468.

The 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry, attacked northeast along the LANGERWEHE - SCHONTHAL (F-0245) Road at 1030 hours, and the 3rd Battalion attacked through the 1st Battalion's positions. Strong enemy defenses along the road were encountered in the vicinity of F-025464. Company E moved around the right flank of Company F to attack these enemy positions from the flank HILL 184 (F-036466) was occupied by Company G at 1735, and the attack toward LANGERWEHE continued at the close of the period. Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion, after engaging in a heavy fire fight at F-028474, completely cleaned enemy resistance from the built up area south of the railroad tracks along the line F-025474 - F-028473. Tanks and tank destroyers were moved across the flats under cover of a heavy smoke screen. Company L was at F-029476 at 1500 and an hour later was encountering heavy resistance in the center of LANGERWEHE, consisting of light tanks with infantry and some mortar fire. All efforts to get tanks and tank destroyers across the railroad were unsuccessful as they were under direct fire of enemy tanks in the town. At the close of the period the 3rd Battalion was fighting in the vicinity of F-030476 with Company K at F-036464.

The 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry, was relieved when passed through by the attack of the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry and moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of NOTEBERG (F-9846). The 3rd Battalion remained at F-990430.

FRENZERBERG which the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry reached at 2050 (26 November), was cleared during the day of enemy except for the castle at F-019489 (SCHLOSS FRENZERBERG) where some 80 enemy were isolated but still resisting, having refused to surrender. The 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry, less Company K, was ordered to the VII Corps rest camp at VERVIERS, and went directly to the Belgium town. Company K remained at F-021488, and the 1st Battalion held positions at F-020481 - F-022477.

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27 November

3rd Armored Division

While units of Combat Command Boudinot continued to occupy the [illegible] (K-9744), SCHERPENSEEL (K-9844), [illegible] (K-9943), WERTH (K-9743) area, Combat Command Hickey was relieved by elements of the 1st Division, and the 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, moved to an assembly area in the vicinity K-943382. There was no change in the location or disposition of other units.

104th Infantry Division

During the night Companies C and E, 414th Infantry, reached the eastern outskirts of FRENZ, and the 2nd Battalion with Company C hooped up in the town. The 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry, passed through Companies E and C 414th Infantry, at 0906 hours and at 1000 the 414th Infantry reverted to Division Reserve. The 2nd Battalion, 414th Infantry, was given the mission of defending the WEISWEILER - FRENZ area. The 1st Battalion remained in the eastern outskirts of ESCHWEILER in the vicinity of K-9748 while the 3rd Battalion held positions south of WEISWEILER in the vicinity of K-9948.

After passing through the 414th Infantry, the 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry, attached to the east at 1000 hours and during the day gained but 300 yards against strong resistance which included machine-gun, mortar and artillery fire. At [illegible] the 2nd Battalion was holding its ground and preparing to continue the attack during the night from the vicinity of F-016502. The 3rd Battalion remained at [illegible] (K-9852) with Company [illegible] in the vicinity of [illegible] and elements on HILL 142 (K-003500), while the 1st Battalion remained in [illegible] (K-9749).

Due to the fact that FRENZ was not cleared until late in the [illegible] and the planned line of departure for the 415th Infantry was in enemy hands, the attack of the 104th Division to seize the [illegible] (F-0450) - LAMERSDORF (F-0250) - INDEN (F-0251) area was postponed until the night of 27-28 November. All units of the 415th remained in previous location with the 1st and 2nd Battalions in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER and the 3rd Battalion south of WEISWEILER in the vicinity of [illegible].

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: Fired 213 missions as follows: [illegible] preparation, [illegible] personnel, 7 mortar and machine gun, 24 close support, 34 counterbattery, 5 tank, 67 interdiction and harassing, and 19 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3842.

4th Infantry Division: Fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] preparation, [illegible] personnel, [illegible] machine gun and mortar, 17 counterbattery, 105 interdiction and harassing, and 22 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible]

104th Infantry Division: Fired 194 missions as follows: 29 preparation, [illegible] personnel, 23 mortar and machine gun, 14 counterbattery, 3 tank, 55 interdiction and harassing, and 47 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5196.

3rd Armored Division: Fired [illegible] missions--1 counterbattery, 4 tank, 15 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous--an expenditure of 382 rounds.

Corps: Fired 117 missions as follows: [illegible] preparation, 9 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 15 counterbattery, 2 tank, 32 interdiction and harassing, and [illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 117

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at [illegible] was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

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Tank Destroyers: 634 fired 46 rounds of 3" HE direct fire at enemy strong points. The 692nd TD Battalion expended 46 rounds of 3" HE direct fire, knocking out an AT gun, and fired 414 rounds of 3" HE on harassing missions. The 803rd TD Battalion expended 182 rounds 3" HE direct fire and 18 rounds of 3" APC direct fire, destroying one anti-[illegible] and neutralizing an enemy pillbox. Harassing missions were also fired with 520 rounds of HE 3" indirect fire being expended.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 484

[illegible] 28 NOV [illegible]

After another successful night operation elements of the VIII Corps advanced to INDEN (F-0852) and LANGERSDORF (F-0850), during the morning and captured a bridge intact over the INDE River at the former place. LANGERWEHE (F-0847) was occupied, HILL 90 (F-0839) captured, an enemy strong point at FRENZERBURG (F-0846) reduced JUNGERSDORF (F-0846) cleared of the enemy.

The enemy's line, in spite of having been reinforced by the 3rd Parachute Division and elements of the 353rd Infantry Division during the preceding period, gave way slowly along the entire Corps front. Resisting with tanks, artillery, mortars, and small arms, the enemy drew back to INDEN and LANGERSDORF where he met our troops in house to house fighting. By the end of the period he had lost approximately half of each town. In the LANGERWEHE area the enemy yielded slowly with house to house fighting continuing in the town. At 1830 hours a counter-attack by elements of the 9th Parachute Regiment, aimed at the eastern part of LANGERWEHE was dispersed, and by nightfall all organized resistance in the town had ceased and the enemy had evacuated all but the northeastern corner.

The enemy was forced to give up JUNGERSDORF after the failure of 50 men from 5th Parachute Regiment, supported by Mark IV tanks, to stage a successful counter-attack at F-0836l, a half mile southeast of the town. Faced with the loss of the tanks and unable to gain ground, the enemy withdrew. In the forest area north of HUERTGEN (F-0835) the enemy showed no signs of weakening and he continued his efficient employment of dug-in tanks and self-propelled guns. GROSSHAU (F-0539) was entered by our troops but the enemy's fire made the position untenable.

Two groups of medium bombers of the Ninth Air Force attached MERKEN (F-0750) with good to excellent results and one group bombed BURGEM (F-0942) with excellent results. The 1st Division was supported by two squadrons of fighter-bombers with good to excellent results. Excellent results were achieved by the 5 squadrons supporting the 104th Division.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Continued the attack on GROSSHAU, meeting very stubborn resistance, and little progress was made.

1st Infantry Division (47th Regimental Combat Team and 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, less the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Cleared the enemy from LANGERWEHE except in the extreme northeastern corner in the vicinity of STUTZERLOCH (F-0847). An enemy counter-attack was repulsed late in the afternoon, a strong point at FRENZERBURG reduced, and JUNGERSDORF mopped up.

104th Infantry Division: Night attacks were launched against INDEN and LANGERSDORF and both towns were partially occupied by our troops. Resistance was stiff and house to house fighting occurred.

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3rd Armored Division: Continued maintenance of equipment and training of personnel. There was no change in the location of units.

4th Infantry Division

Committed at 0910 to eliminate enemy resistance between the 22nd and 8th Infantry Regiments in the attack on GROSSHAU, the 12th Infantry attacked north on the road from F-047390 to F-047406 clearing it of all enemy. On attacking the 1st Battalion encountered small arms and machine gun fire. This opposition was eliminated, HILL 90 (F-048388) captured, and Company A left toHold that position. The Battalion continued to advance along the road sweeping it of enemy until heavy opposition was met in the vicinity of F-047399 late in the afternoon. Positions were organized there for the night. Company E moved in back of the 1st Battalion and took up positions at F-047398. The remainder of the 2nd Battalion was in the vicinity of F-018375 and the 3rd Battalion remained in place and supported the 22nd Infantry by fire.

The 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry and Companies B and E attacked at 0900 to seize GROSSHAU and the high ground to the northeast. Companies B and E encountered heavy resistance from dug-in tanks, machine guns, mortars and small arms throughout the day. Company E relieved Company B in positions at F-047380 at 2000 and Company B joined the 1st Battalion. Company A, E, and C held positions at F-042387, F-047381 - F-045381, and F-044383, respectively. The 3rd Battalion advanced to F-048387 in conjunction with the attack of the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry. The remainder of the 2nd Battalion held positions at F-046378 - F-040372.

The 8th Infantry continued to maintain the same positions held at the close of the previous day. Active patrolling was conducted to the northeast and south and rear areas were cleared of enemy. The 1st Battalion was relieved by the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, but remained in position, prepared to move at first light 29 November to the line of departure in preparation for an attack to the northeast.

1st Infantry Division

The 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, continued to meet strong opposition, and were counter-attacked at 0230 and again in mid-morning. It cleared the enemy from JUNGERSDORF and held positions at F-041468 with Company K at F-040462. The 1st Battalion continued to hold positions at F-039444 - F-041449, and the 2nd Battalion remained assembled in the vicinity of F-029450 with Company G at F-038453.

During the night enemy tanks tried to break into the positions of Companies K and L, 18th Infantry, but were driven off at 0300 by bazooka fire. In the morning the 2nd Battalion, 18th Infantry, continued the attack against LANGERWEHE, attacking through the factory area at 1030 with the mission of cleaning it up and helping the 3rd Battalion mop up the eastern end of the town. By 1800 Company E had passed under the railroad tracks and into the STUTGERICH area; Company F had swung right and advanced to the eastern edge of town; Company G held HILL 194 (F-036466). At 2000 hours Company F was in the eastern part of LANGERWEHE with the left flank on the main highway and the right flank on the railroad. Company E extended from the main highway, tying in with the right flank of Company F to the northeast and to the factory area at approximately F-036476. The 3rd Battalion held positions from F-028470 - F-032478. The 1st Battalion assembled in the vicinity of F-023468.

The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, which had been temporarily attached to the 18th Infantry, reverted to Regimental control at 1800 and was to move from positions at F-021480 - F-026480, north of LANGERWEHE, to relieve the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry.

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At the close of the period the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry was fighting to clear out two bunkers in this area. The 2nd Battalion remained in positions in the vicinity of NOTHBERG at K-987467 with Company E at F-013453, while the 3rd Battalion remained assembled in the vicinity of K-991401.

Enemy which had been using a building of SCHLOSS FRENZERBURG (F-019489) as a strong point, were attacked by the 2nd Battalion, 47th Infantry, at 0900 hours and by 0930 had been routed with the 2nd Battalion in possession of the castle. The 1st Battalion moved to an assembly area at K-995468 while the rest of the Regiment continued to hold defensive position, except the 3rd Battalion, less Company K, which remained at VERVIERS (K-6622). Company G was at F-020491 with the other elements of the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of F-005483 and Company K at F-005480.

The 4th Cavalry Squadron, reinforced, continued to block and patrol to the east and maintained contact with the 8th and 26th Infantry Regiments. Other elements attached to the 4th Cavalry Group remained in Group Reserve in the vicinity of AACHEN (K-8343).

104th Infantry Division

Early in the morning the 1st Battalion, 413th Infantry attacked under the cover of darkness (0430 hours) with three companies from positions south east of LOHN (K-9952) to seize INDEN and secure a bridgehead across the INDE River. Company C managed to work its way into the northern portion of INDEN unobserved before light and when dawn broke, moved south fighting from house to house. The Company was under continuous machine gun and mortar fire from across the River. Elements of the Company advanced across the INDE and the rest of Company C planned to move over during the night.

Company A, 413th Infantry, attacked from the northwest and reached the southern outskirts of ALTDORF (F-0353) early in the morning. At daylight the Company was pinned down by fire from INDEN and from east of the INDE River. The Company commended working its way south at 1730 and by 2200 reached positions in the center of town, making contact with Company C. Company B upon reaching the open ground on the western bank of the INDE was pinned down by heavy fire. Elements of the Company managed to hold this ground during the day. At night Company B withdrew to PUTZLOHN (F-9951) after being relieved by Company I along the line: F-024503 - F-022510. Other elements of the 3rd Battalion remained in the vicinity of PRONHOVEN (F-9852).

The 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry, attacked at 0500 hours from the northeastern outskirts of FRENZ (F-0149) toward LAUFENSDORF. The Battalion advanced about a kilometer during the day against very stiff opposition to reach the southwestern edge of the town where a toehold was gained by nightfall with hard fighting continuing at the close of the period.

While elements of the 415th Infantry remained assembled in the vicinity of ESCHWEILER (K-9647), units of the 414th Infantry moved to assembly areas with the 1st and 2nd Battalions in the vicinity of FRENZ and the 3rd Battalion remaining southwest of WEISWEILER in the vicinity of (K-992481).

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: Fired 99 rounds as follows: 11 preparation, 20 personnel, 7 mortar and machine gun, 23 counterbattery, 19 tank, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3599.

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4th Infantry Division: Fired 192 missions as follows: 3 preparation, 20 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 33 close support, 46 counterbattery, 93 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5313.

104th Infantry Division: Fired 102 missions as follows: 12 personnel, 12 mortar, 12 counterbattery, 13 tank, 43 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4266.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 9 missions--2 preparation, 5 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous--expending 310 rounds.

Corps: Fired 129 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 7 personnel, 9 close support, 68 counterbattery, 6 tank, 36 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 8572.

The 1st Division coordinated the use of the illuminating shell with their forward infantry units. When the infantry heard enemy activity, the artillery was informed of the location as accurately as possible. The Div Arty had several battalions lay on the area. Then an illuminating shell was fired over the suspected area and artillery observers pin-pointed the target. Usually it was only necessary for artillery to make a small shift to fire a TOT on the spot. During the night one mission was fired on enemy troops with the observer reporting excellent results.

An observer from the 104th Division located a tank assembly area by use of the illuminating shell. The area was a suspected location and the illuminating shell confirmed the presence of the tanks. A TOT from 7 battalions (5 from 104th Div Arty, and 2 from Corps Arty - 183rd and 75lst FA Bns) was placed on the target.

The illuminating shell was also fired by the 3-inch Tank Destroyer Battalions. To date the best results obtained were with the shell bursting between 1100 and 500 feet. The period of good illumination for a single shell was about 20 seconds.

On 27 and 28 November AOP's in the Corps adjusted on 121 enemy batteries, AA and AT guns and mortars. All of these targets adjusted on were active when spotted by the air observer.

Antiaircraft: One enemy plane was engaged by the 114th AAA Gun Bn at 1936 hours with results unknown.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 346.

29 NOVEMBER 1944.

GROSSHAU (F-0538) was captured as our offensive continued. Other gains were made in the center of the zone of action and on the left flank. LANERSDORF (F-0250) was captured, all enemy resistance in LANDERWEHE (F-0247) cleaned up, positions in INDEN (F-0252) strengthened, and elements advanced to MERODE (F-0445), entering the town with hard fighting in progress at the end of the day.

Beginning at 0130 hours the enemy, employing two infantry platoons and five tanks, launched an attack to drive our forces from the northern part of INDEN. The battle continued throughout the day with heavy fire falling on all roads approaching the town. By nightfall the bridge which had been lost by our forces during the day was untenable to the enemy. In LANERSDORF an almost parallel battle to that in INDEN was waged by a company of enemy infantry and two tanks.

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However, by darkness the defenders of the village withdrew to the east side of the INDE River, blowing the bridge behind them. In both towns the enemy fought from barricaded houses and cellars, holding tenaciously to each bit of ground. In the LAWERSDORF area resistance slackened as the enemy was forced out of the northeastern edge of town.

Before engaging our forces in MERODE in house to house fighting, the 5th Parachute Regiment, delayed our advance by intense mortar and small arms fire. South of MERODE the enemy gave way slowly to the east executing the maximum delay offered by the dense woods and prepared positions. Still further south the enemy was finally forced to yield GROSSHAU in stubborn street fighting, but not before he had attempted to relieve the pressure by launching a company strength counter-attack southwest of the village. The counter-attack failed to fulfill its missions, and he fell back on his defensive positions, making liberal use of dug-in assault guns.

During the morning the sky was overcast, but the clouds broke at noon sufficiently to permit fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command to support the VII Corps attack until late in the afternoon. Two squadrons each supported the 1st and 104th Infantry Divisions while medium bombers of the Ninth Air Force attacked MARIAWEILER (F-0947), PIER (F-0552), and ELSDORF (F-1860).

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron and 46th Armored Infantry Battalion, 5th Armored Division, attached): Captured GROSSHAU, made progress to the north, cleared the enemy from the center of the Division zone, and repelled an enemy counter-attack.

1st Infantry Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and elements, 2nd Battalion, 47th Regimental Combat Team, attached): Completed the clean up of LAWERWEHE, and entered MERODE. The 1st and 3rd Battalions, 47th Regimental Combat Team, reverted to control of 9th Infantry Division.

104th Infantry Division: Heavy fighting continued for INDEN with our troops being reinforced after the enemy counter-attacked. Another enemy thrust was repulsed in LAWERSDORF and the town occupied.

3rd Armored Division: Continued maintenance of equipment and training of personnel. Units continued to hold the same positions as at the close of the previous period.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, Reserve) was attached VII Corps effective at 1200 hours. Combat Command ("A") Regnier assembled in the vicinity of K-9232, and Combat Command ("B") Cole assembled in the vicinity of K-9424.

4th Infantry Division

The 22nd Infantry renewed the attack on GROSSHAU at 1100 hours with Company E making the main effort in conjunction with Combat Command Anderson, 5th Armored Division to the south (right). After Company E had advanced against stiff opposition to the edge of the town, the enemy launched a company strength counter-attack between Companies E and F southwest of GROSSHAU. The enemy attack was repulsed and Company E continued the attack to the east to GROSSHAU against heavy resistance from artillery and machine gun fire. At 1915 hours Company E had captured and cleared the town after very stubborn house to house fighting.

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Attacking at 1100 to seize the high ground at F-058385, the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, advanced northeast of the town, cut the main road leading to GEY (F-0739) and secured positions in the vicinity of F-055389. The 1st Battalion moved forward to occupy positions formerly held by the 3rd Battalion at F-039388 - F-042385. The 2nd Battalion held positions southwest of GROSSHAU at F-047378 - F-041372 while Company E remained in the town.

At 0830 the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, was committed to clear the enemy from the center of the Division zone between the 22nd Infantry on the right and the 8th Infantry on the left, and secure the north - south road from HILL 90 to Road Crossing 3576 (F-048408 to F-048389). Initially no resistance was encountered and the 1st Battalion reached its objective in the vicinity of F-046405. Opposition was very light. The 2nd Battalion moved forward behind the 1st Battalion and at 1010 hours Company E relieved Company A and the latter rejoined the 1st Battalion in the vicinity of F-045507 - F-046401. The 2nd Battalion took up positions along the line: F-047400 - F-046402, and mopped up in the rear areas. Both the 1st and 2nd Battalions dispatched patrols to the east and they advanced 1000 yards without encountering any enemy, reporting the north-south road to the front to be heavily mined. The 3rd Battalion was relieved of its positions in the vicinity of F-038367 and moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-027387.

After being relieved by elements of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in the vicinity of F-047407, the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, attacked east through the KONIGL FORST at 1000 to seize the objective, (F-062427). The 2nd Battalion attacked on the left of the 1st Battalion at the same time to seize the HAF HARDT Road Center (F-060433), having moved forward from its assembly area and passed through the 3rd Battalion. The two battalions initially met no opposition, but later encountered small arms, mortar, machine gun and some artillery fire, following an advance of several hundred yards. At 1600 the enemy counter-attacked the 1st Battalion from the north, but the attack was repulsed. The 1st and 2nd Battalions reached positions at F-050428 - F-052422 with Company A at F-047422, and F-044430 - F-049430 - F-047432, respectively. The 3rd Battalion after being passed through assembled in Reserve at F-012419.

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less one troop with the 4th Reconnaissance Troop, attached, relieved the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry, at F-047407, and the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry in the vicinity of F-038367. The Squadron continued to maintain road blocks within the Division zone of action, conducted patrolling, maintained contact between Combat Teams, and screened rear areas of small groups of bypassed enemy. Upon being attached to the 4th Division, the 44th Armored Infantry Battalion, 5th Armored Division, moved to an assembly area at K-6428.

1st Infantry Division

Ordered to attack 29 November to seize MERODE, SCHLICH (F-0545) and LUCHEM (F-0748), and eliminate enemy from the LANGERWEHE area, the 1st Infantry Division, succeeded in reaching MERODE and clearing up LANGERWEHE. The 2nd Battalion, 26th Infantry, attacked at 1000 to capture MERODE. Company G was relieved by the Reconnaissance Platoon of the 634th Tank Destroyer Battalion at F-038453 and joined the 2nd Battalion when it passed through the 1st Battalion at 1107 hours. Progress was slow through the heavy woods, and a considerable number of mines were encountered as well as felled trees. At the approach to the town heavy small arms, machine gun, mortar and artillery fire was received before the 2nd Battalion reached the eastern end of the woods. By 1550 Companies E and F were in MERODE, and at 2014 hours the 2nd Battalion was in the town holding positions from F-050430 to F-052434. Heavy fighting was in progress in MERODE at the close of the period.

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Poor roads and the extreme muddy condition of the ground made it very difficult to bring up supporting weapons. Meanwhile, the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, adjusted positions in JUNGERSDORF, repulsed a counter-attack and consolidated defensive positions in the town. The 1st Battalion held the same positions as the previous day.

While the 3rd Battalion, 18th Infantry was consolidating positions in LANGERWEHE, the 2nd Battalion continued mopping up operations in the eastern part of the town. Company F reduced an enemy strong point at F-039477, and Company E cleared the enemy from STUTGERLOCH (F-0347), METTLER MUHLE (Mill) (F-0447), and STUTGERHOF (F-0447). The attack was supported by friendly artillery and fighter-bombers with excellent results. OBERGEICH (F-0547) was bombed and strafed with good results. Enemy artillery fire was heavy from the north. The main crossroad and the LANGERWEHE - WEISWEILER Road were brought under heavy enemy harassing and interdiction fires from the vicinity of LUCHEM (F-0348). During the day the enemy were cleared from LANGERWEHE after hard fighting and the 3rd and 2nd Battalions held positions in the town at the end of the period. The 1st Battalion remained in the vicinity of F-023468.

By 0207 hours the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, had cleared out the last enemy bunker in its area northwest of LANGERWEHE and during the day active patrol contact was maintained with the enemy. Companies A, B, and C held positions at F-027480, F-022478, and F-013479, respectively. Other units of the Regiment remained in the same locations as at the close of the previous period.

Upon being relieved in the line elements of the 47th Regimental Combat Team were to pass to control of the 9th Infantry Division and during the day the 1st and 3rd Battalions reverted to 9th Division. Under the cover of darkness all elements of the 2nd Battalion except Company G and part of Company E moved out of the line. These two companies continued to hold defensive positions with Company G at F-020491, and Company E elements at F-007483.

Elements of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron advanced to the east in conjunction with the infantry attack and at the close of the period had established strong points linking up the flanks of the infantry in the vicinity of F-042441 - F-044435 - F-043428 between the 26th Infantry and the 8th Infantry, 4th Division, on the right. Other units attached to the 4th Cavalry Group remained in Reserve in the vicinity of AACHEN (K-8343).

104th Infantry Division

During the morning Companies A, C, and I, 413th Infantry, fought furiously to secure INDEN and establish a bridgehead across the INDE River. These companies were opposed by tanks in the town and very heavy and effective artillery fire from the east side of the River. To firmly secure INDEN a coordinated attack was launched at 1500 hours with elements of the 750th Tank Battalion attacking from the southwest and northwest. Infantry riding on light tanks struck from the west, hidden from enemy observation by a heavy smoke screen. Following this, two companies of the 3rd Battalion, 413th Infantry, moved abreast of Highway 56 against the town. At dusk Company I was at the central crossroad of INDEN and Company K was pushing through the northwestern outskirts of the town. By 2300 hours contact had been made by all companies, the objective was being mopped up, and reorganization was progressing favorably. Company B, 413th Infantry, and Company F, 415th Infantry, moved to positions in IOHN (K-9952).

Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry, had continued its battle for LAMERSDORF. At 1500 hard fighting was in progress in the center of the town.

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Five tanks of Company B, 750th Tank Battalion, headed for INDEN peeled off and struck at LANGERWEHE from the southwest, and with this assistance the infantry was able to force its way forward. By 2130 patrols had reached the northern edge of town and at 2400 hours had taken LAMERSDORF.

Companies G and F, 414th Infantry, withdrew at dusk from FRENZ (F-0119) and rejoined the Regiment. The 1st Battalion was assembled on the eastern edge of SCHMIDTWEILER in the vicinity of K-9746 and the 2nd and 3rd Battalions were respectively, west and southwest of WEISWEILER in the vicinities of K-9849 and K-9948. At 1900 Company K, 415th Infantry, moved to the east bank of the INDE River in the vicinity of FRENZ, and Company I moved to the town proper. Remaining elements of the 3rd Battalion, 415th Infantry, (then at WEISWEILER) were prepared to relieve the 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry at 2400 in LAMERSDORF. The 2nd Battalion of the 415th Infantry closed in the northern part of DURWISS (K-9749) while the 1st battalion remained in ESCHWEILER.

Artillery

1st Infantry Division: Fired 152 missions as follows: 3 preparation, 35 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 13 close support, 22 counterbattery, 6 tank, 46 interdiction and harassing, and 21 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3948.

4th Infantry Division: Fired 251 missions as follows: 30 preparation, 20 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 14 close support, 23 counterbattery, 138 interdiction and harassing, and 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 7082.

104th Infantry Division: Fired 127 missions as follows: 32 personnel, 12 mortar and machine gun, 4 counterbattery, 6 tank, 38 interdiction and harassing, and 35 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2653.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 8 missions--6 interdiction and harassing and 2 miscellaneous--expending 298 rounds.

Corps: Fired 83 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 5 personnel, 5 close support, 30 counterbattery, 31 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1453.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported for the 2 hour period ending at 0400 by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 692nd TD Battalion fired 424 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on interdiction missions. The 803rd TD Battalion expended 147 rounds of 3" HE and 4 rounds of 3" APC, direct fire, neutralizing 2 enemy pillboxes, and knocking out 2 machine gun nests. 520 rounds were also expended on indirect fire harassing missions.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 217.

30 NOVEMBER 1944

Very heavy fighting continued in INDEN (F-0252) where our troops were engaged in securing a bridgehead across the INDE River, and in MERODE (F-0545) with two companies of the 26th Infantry being cut off by the enemy. Attempts to relieve the isolated companies from the west and south were unsuccessful and all efforts to make contact by radio and patrols failed. On the right flank of the Corps progress was made in the KONIGL FORST as our troops advanced east against very difficult terrain and stubborn opposition.

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30 November

The battle for INDEN continued for the second day with few changes made by the enemy. In addition to the house to house fighting, direct fire from tanks and assault guns, spotted in the factory area east of the INDE River, blanketed any successful major moves by our forces. In LANGENDORF (F-0250), however, the enemy was less successful in holding his positions, as the entire town was lost to him. From positions on the eastern bank of the INDE River he was able to prevent our crossing of the river only as far south as FRANZ (F-0149). At that point he was unsuccessful in attempting to prevent our crossing with machine gun and small arms fire.

Aided by the extremely muddy roads and by using heavy mortar and direct fire concentrations, the enemy in the village of MERODE was able to prevent the relief of our forces fighting in the western outskirts of the town. Elements of the 3d Parachute Division, while advancing to take up new positions in the woods (vicinity F-045456) southeast of [illegible] (F-0446), unexpectedly ran into our forces occupying the positions to which they had been ordered. There followed a brief and unsuccessful attempt to dislodge our forces. Further south, after he had been completely cleared from [illegible] (F-053[illegible]), the enemy was forced to give ground along a 2500 yard front to within a half mile of GEY (F-0739). Although he resisted strongly with small arms fire, his artillery and mortar fire was light as compared to the preceding periods.

Although visibility was only fair with broken clouds until afternoon when the sky became overcast, two squadrons of fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command each supported the attacks of the 1st, 4th, and 104th Infantry Divisions. Results were reported as good to excellent by ground troops. Medium bombers of the [illegible]th Air Force again bombed enemy installations in the VII Corps area, and attacked STOLBERG (F-1440) with results unknown.

4th Infantry Division (Combat Command REVIERE, 5th Armored Division, and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Local gains were made in the difficult terrain of the KONIGL FORST against stiff opposition and elements advanced to within a half mile of GEY.

1st Infantry Division: Continued to be heavily engaged with the enemy in the fight for MERODE. Companies E and F, 26th Infantry, were out of contact with the regiment during the period.

104th Infantry Division: Little progress was made in INDEN where very bitter fighting was in progress. A number of enemy tanks were destroyed and [illegible]DORF was completely cleared of all enemy.

3d Armored Division: Continued maintenance of equipment and training of personnel. All units remained in previous locations.

5th Armored Division: (less Combat Command Anderson): Combat Command Reghler, less 46th Armored Infantry Battalion, was attached to 4th Division, and assembled in the vicinity of [illegible]. At 1800 46th Armored Infantry Battalion, then attached to 2nd Infantry, reverted to Combat Command control. Combat Command Cole remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of F-8428.

4th Infantry Division

The 4th Division was ordered to press its attack 30 November to seize the [illegible]HARDT (F-0043) road center as previously directed, and to attack to seize the general line: [illegible]RAFSBERG (F-0738) - road junction at F-068393 - trail junction (F-062409).

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Upon completion of that mission the Division had the objective to seize the STRASS - GLY (F-0739) area.

At 1100 the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 22d Infantry, attacked with the 46th Armored Infantry Battalion to seize the line: F-064394 - F-076382, initially encountering small arms and machine gun fire. A slow but steady advance was maintained throug out the day against very heavy resistance with the enemy employing intensive machine gun and small arms fire as their chief defensive weapons, together with heavy mortar and artillery fire. Many direct fire weapons were also used by the enemy, particularly against the 2nd Battalion. On the extreme right Companies B and C of the 46th Armored Infantry Battalion reached F-063379 - F-064374 with Company A at F-059375. In the center the 2d Battalion advanced to F-059383 - F-059378 and the 3d Battalion on the left reached F-063394 - F-063390 - F-060388. The 1st Battalion remained in an assembly area at F-047386 with Company C in the vicinity of F-058385.

The 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry, attacked in the center of the Division zone at 0845 and initially encountered no opposition. The 2d Battalion was then also attacking, having been committed at 0810 hours with the objective of seizing the line: F-062408 - F-063394 in conjunction with the 1st Battalion on the left. By 1000 the 2d Battalion had encountered a minefield in the vicinity of F-051397 and the 1st Battalion was in a fire fight with enemy using machine guns in the vicinity of F-054400. Against determined resistance, including fires of all calibres, the 12th Infantry advanced to the following positions: Company E, F-061394 - F-060397; Company F, F-057398 - F-056395; Company G, F-045395; Company B, F-059403; Company C, F-065409 - F-065406; Company A, F-044404. The 3d Battalion closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of F-032410 at 1545 hours.

On the left flank of the Division, the 8th Infantry attacked to seize the objective (F-062432) with the 1st and 2nd Battalions attacking at 0845 and 0900 hours, respectively. Heavy resistance from a well dug-in enemy, using many automatic weapons, artillery and mortars, was encountered throughout the day. A small counterattack against the 1st Battalion was repulsed, and by 1200 the 1st and 2nd Battalions had reached positions which were occupied by the enemy during the night of 29/30 November. The 3d Battalion was committed in the afternoon on the right of the 1st Battalion, and moved forward to F-049414 where they became involved in a fire fight and prepared positions in that vicinity for the night. The 1st Battalion in the center of the Regimental zone held positions at F-050422 - F-050427, and the 2d Battalion on the left flank, F-052428 - F-051433.

Elements of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron together with the 4th Reconnaissance Troop continued to man road blocks, patrol, maintain contact between combat teams and screen rear areas of small by-passed enemy groups.

1st Infantry Division

While engaged in cleaning up enemy resistance in [illegible], Companies E and F, 26th Infantry, were counterattacked early in the period and cut off from the Regiment prior to dawn. Attempts to establish patrol contact with the two isolated companies and to reinforce them were blocked by direct enemy fire. At the close of the period Companies E and F were still out of contact with the remainder of the 26th Infantry. Meanwhile the 3d Battalion had consolidated its positions in [illegible] and the 1st Battalion probed to the east but was forced to remain in previous positions due to the situation in [illegible]. At 1645 a counterattack was received along the hill line: F-[illegible] - F-[illegible], between Companies G and A through the Reconnaissance Troop to Company C. At

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1722 the enemy attack was broken by our artillery and by 1840 was completely repulsed. All units held the same positions as at the close of the previous period.

The 3d Battalion, 18th Infantry, reorganized and consolidated positions in LANGERWEHE, while the 2d Battalion cleaned out the eastern outskirts of the town in the vicinity of F-03[illegible], meeting heavy resistance in the STUTG[illegible] (F-043479) area. The 1st Battalion reorganized and reconnoitered in preparation for relieving the 3d Battalion, 26th Infantry, in JUNGERSDORF during the night. At 2012 hours one company of the 1st Battalion was enroute to JUNGERSDORF to begin relief of the 26th Infantry unit. There was no appreciable change in the location of any units.

During the day the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, sent a patrol into [illegible] (F-0348) and positions were further consolidated and defenses organized for the night. Company I relieved Company G and elements of Company F, 47th Infantry, in the vicinity of F-020491, completing the relief of the 47th Infantry units and moving into position by 2052 hours. The remainder of the 3d Battalion, 16th Infantry, moved to an assembly area southwest of [illegible] in the vicinity of F-99[illegible], and the 2d Battalion moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of [illegible] at K-[illegible]. Elements of the 4th Cavalary Group continued to patrol the right flank of the Division and maintain contact with the 4th Division.

104th Infantry Division

A Task Force was organized from the various units in [illegible] (3d Battalion, and Companies A and [illegible], 413th Infantry, and 5 tanks of 75[illegible] Tank Battalion), and despite heavy fire from east of the [illegible] River and the southern half of the town, the northern part of [illegible] was secured by our troops. Between dusk and [illegible] tanks and tank destroyers, Company [illegible] and the remaining elements of 1st Battalion, 4[illegible] Infantry, moved to [illegible] from [illegible] (K-[illegible]). These units were all incorporated into the Task Force and plans were made to continue the attack at an early hour the next day. Other elements of the [illegible] Battalion remained in [illegible] (K-[illegible]).

[illegible] operations were completed in [illegible] by elements of the 3d Battalion, 413th Infantry. Company [illegible] held positions in [illegible] and Company [illegible] southeast of [illegible] (F-[illegible]). Company [illegible] remained in [illegible] and the rest of the [illegible] in [illegible]. All units of the 414th Infantry continued in reserve with the 1st Battalion in the vicinity of [illegible], the 2nd Battalion, [illegible], and the 3d Battalion, [illegible].

[illegible]

1st Div: Fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] [illegible], 7 close support, [illegible], [illegible] interdiction and harassing, and 16 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible].

4th Div: Fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] [illegible] support, [illegible] harassing, and [illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible]

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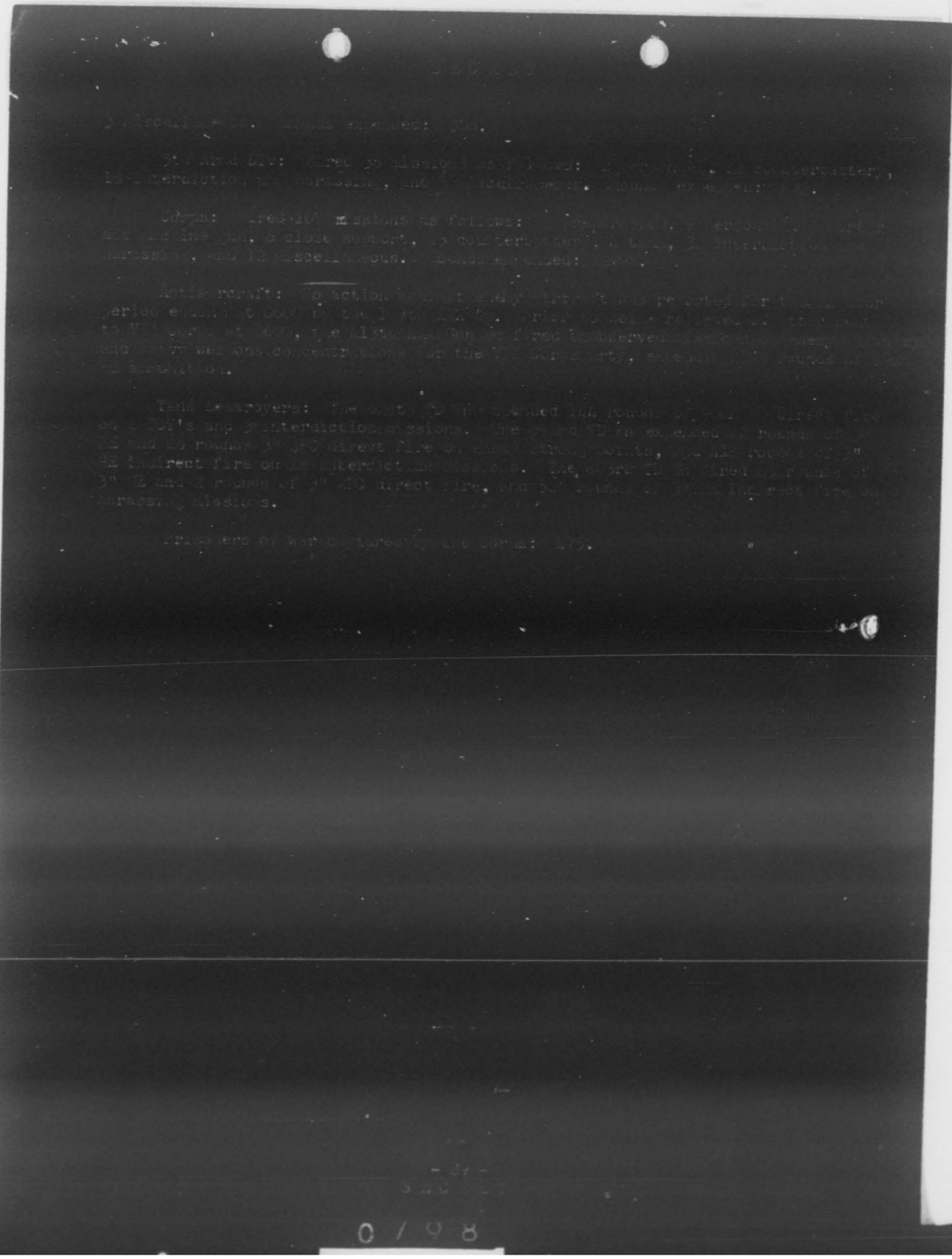

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Appendix No. 3 to Action Against Enemy, Report After/After Action Report of VII Corps, U. S. Army, for 1-30 November, 1944.

DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES, VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY,

BY TYPE FOR PERIOD 1 - 30 NOVEMBER, 1944.

Date	Killed	Wounded	Missing	Captured	Totals
1	2	7	0	0	9
2	4	20	1	0	25
3	2	26	7	0	35
4	6	6	1	0	13
5	4	30	0	1	35
6	4	27	1	0	32
7	0	17	1	0	18
8	0	16	1	0	17
9	2	28	4	0	34
10	8	157	12	0	177
11	14	47	6	0	67
12	10	22	6	0	38
13	6	287	107	0	400
14	15	132	199	0	344
15	6	58	10	0	74
16	58	387	10	0	455
17	62	467	27	0	556
18	74	554	60	0	688
19	51	498	24	0	573
20	29	571	209	0	809
21	41	570	129	0	740
22	61	548	108	0	720
23	50	500	60	0	610
24	47	420	205	0	672
25	60	613	105	0	778
26	69	363	71	4	507
27	43	407	90	0	540
28	22	254	41	0	317
29	32	318	89	0	480
30	41	274	288	10	615
	857	7826	1917	15	10615

Figures in this Appendix are as compiled by S-1 Sect. VII Corps.

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DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES, VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY,

BY UNITS FOR THE PERIOD 1 - 30 NOVEMBER, 1944.

	1 Inf Div	3 Armd Div	4 Inf Div	104 Inf Div	47 RCT	Corps Troops	Total
1	6	1			1	1	9
2	6	7			5	7	25
3	10	7			2	16	35
4	3	4			0	2	9
5	11	2			0	20	33
6	19	2			1	10	32
7	8	2			3	5	18
8	3	4			0	10	17
9	18	4			1	9	32
10	1	11	143	14	0	8	177
11	8	1	9	9	1	19	47
12	4	2	15	11	3	5	38
13	4	2	315	10	0	9	340
14	0	3	311	10	6	14	344
15	4	4	43	7	6	12	76
16	98	12	275	21	31	12	449
17	94	50	278	305	19	8	754
18	123	62	219	257	6	51	698
19	200	34	204	100	9	34	641
20	346	12	309	64	62	16	809
21	218	20	89	170	383	40	920
22	177	1	360	80	85	17	720
23	222	1	310	63	8	6	610
24	293	19	181	177	3	19	692
25	204	6	306	27	60	25	773
26	75	2	241	92	63	34	507
27	172	2	192	120	24	30	540
28	111	0	34	108	35	29	317
29	193	0	215	44	11	17	480
30	311	0	160	117	0	25	613
	2547	279	4092	1904	463	500	10515

No casualties were sustained by 3 Armd Div while attached VII Corps.

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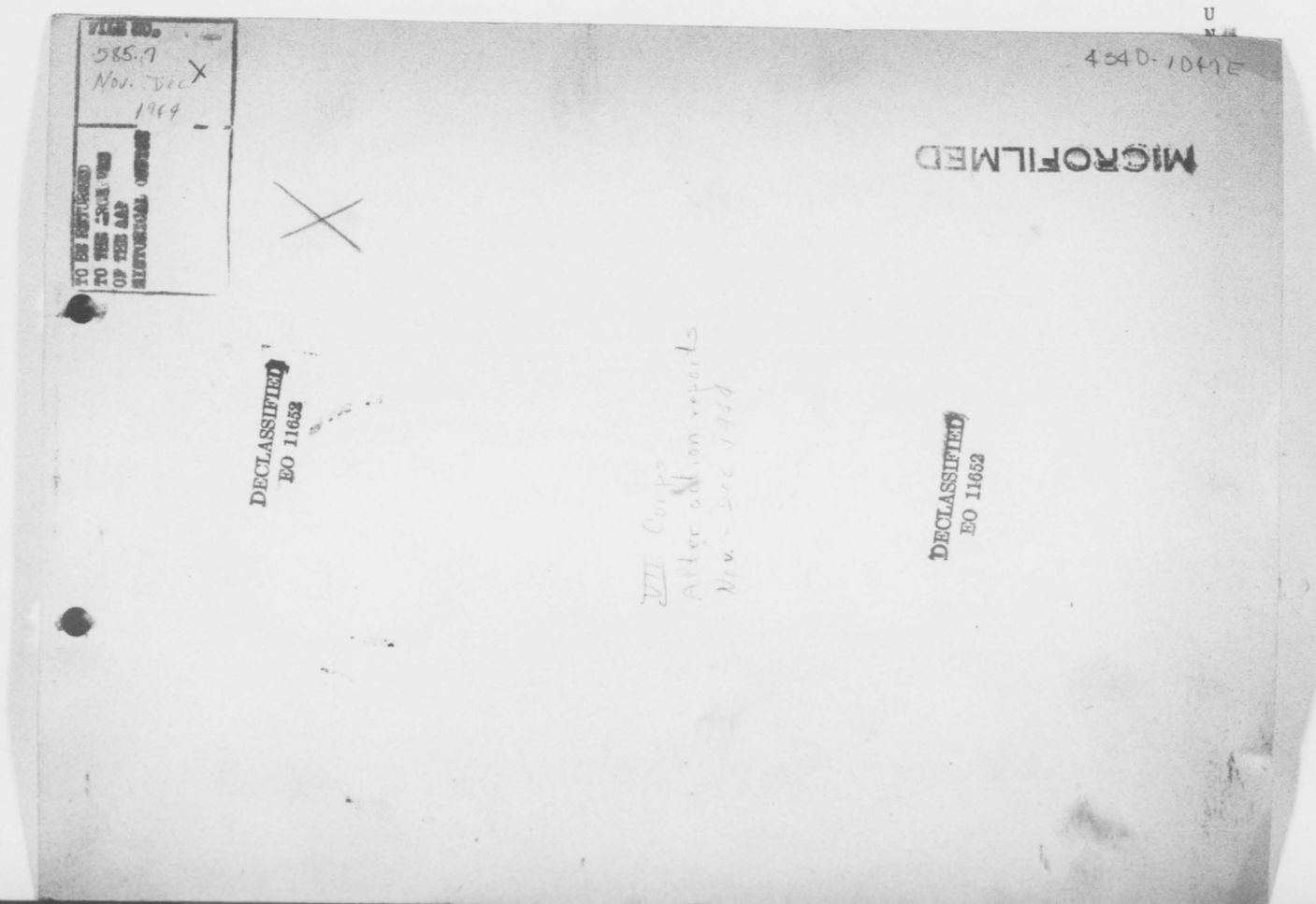

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
APO 307, U.S. ARMY

Auth: CG VII Corps
Init: N.M.D.
Date: 9 Jan 45

9 January 45

Copy ___ of 6 copies.

SUBJECT: History of VII Corps for the period of 1-31 December 1944, Incl (Report after action against the enemy).

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D.C. (Through Commanding General, First United States Army.)

1. In compliance with letter 319.1/401, First United States Army, 13 July 1944, subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports, the following report is submitted for the period 1-31 December 1944, Incl:

a.) ORIGINAL UNIT:

No change.

b.) CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

(1.) Assigned Corps troops as of 1 December 44:

VII Corps
VII Corps Arty
13 FA Obsn Bn
50 Sig Bn
109 AAA Gp
491 Collect Co
492 Collect Co
506 QM Car Co (1 Pl)
649 Cleaning Co
804 MP Co Corps
1106 Engr C Gp

Classification ch[redacted]
[redacted]RICTED 9 MAY 1946
by authority of AC of S, G-2, WDGS
by Ray M. Stroupe
RAY M. STROUPE
Capt., Inf

207-33.4

(2.) Attached Corps troops as of 1 December 44:

1 TD Gp
1 Spec Serv Co
4 Cav Gp Mecz
4 Cav Ron Sq M
5 NRU M Type V
6 Armd Gp
10 Fin Disb Sec
14 Bomb Disp Sq
18 FA Gp Mtz
20 Bomb Disp Sq
24 Cav Ron Sq M
58 Armd FA Bn

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59 Fin Disb Sec
60 AGF Band
87 Cml Bn Mtz
87 Armd FA Bn
116 AAA Gun Bn M
142 FA Gp Mtz
154 APU Type F
172 FA Gp Mtz
154 APU Type F
172 FA Bn 4.5 Gun
183 FA Bn 155 How
188 FA Gp Mtz
188 FA Bn 155 How
195 FA Bn 8" How
196 FA Bn 105 How
207 CIC Det
237 Engr C Bn
238 Engr C Bn
240 FA Bn 155 Gun
285 FA Obsn Bn
294 Engr C Bn
297 Engr C Bn
298 Engr C Bn
307 APU Type F
385 QM Trk Co
413 AAA Gun Bn M
438 AAA AW Bn M
440 AAA AW Bn M
474 AAA AW Bn M
501 Engr Co LP
507 Engr Co LP
582 Engr Co DT
600 QM Ldry Co
603 QM Grv R Co
612 Engr Co LE
635 TD Bn T
663 Engr Top Co C
690 FA Bn 105 How
692 QM Bn
759 Tk Bn L
751 FA Bn 155 How
951 FA Bn 155 How
957 FA Bn 155 How
980 FA Bn 155 Gun
981 FA Bn 155 Gun
988 Engr Co TB
991 FA Bn 155 Gun
994 Engr Co TB
1120 Engr C Gp
2892 Engr TI TM C
3251 Sig Serv Co
3279 QM Serv Co
3891 QM Trk Co

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1st Inf Div

1 Engr C Bn
1 Med Bn
1 Sig Co
1 QM Co
1 Inf Div MP Pl
1 Rcn Trp Mecz
1 Inf Div Band
1 Div Arty
5 FA Bn 155 How
7 FA Bn 105 How
16 Inf Regt
18 Inf Regt
26 Inf Regt
32 FA Bn 105 How
33 FA Bn 105 How
701 Ord LM Co
1 CIC Detch (Attchd)
103 AAA AW Bn M
634 TD Bn SP
745 Tk Bn

3d Armd Div

Mnt Bn 3 Armd Div
3 Armd Div Sup Bn
3 Armd Div Trains
23 Armd Engr Bn
32 Armd Regt
36 Armd Inf Regt
33 Armd Regt
45 Armd Med Bn
54 Armd FA Bn
67 Armd FA Bn
83 Armd Rcn Bn
143 Armd Sig Co
391 Armd FA Bn
486 AAA AW Bn SP (attchd)
503 CIC Det
703 TD Bn SP

4 Inf Div

4 Engr C Bn
4 Med Bn
4 Sig Co
4 M Co
4 Rcn Trp Mecz
4 Inf Div MP Pl
4 Div Arty
8 Inf Regt
12 Inf Regt
22 Inf Regt

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20 FA Bn 155 How
29 FA Bn 105 How
44 FA Bn 105 How
42 FA Bn 105 How
704 Ord LM Co
4 CIC Det (attchd)
377 AAA AW Bn M
603 TD Bn SP
70 Tk Bn

104 Inf Div

104 Sig Co
104 QM Co
104 Rcn Trp Mecz
104 Inf Div MP Pl
104 Inf Div Band
104 Div Arty
329 Engr C Bn
385 FA Bn 105 How
386 FA Bn 105 How
387 FA Bn 155 How
413 Inf Regt
414 Inf Regt
415 Inf Reg
804 Ord LM Co
929 FA Bn 105 How
329 Med Bn
104 CIC Det (attchd)
555 AAA AW Bn M
692 TD Bn T
750 Tk Bn

AUTH: 5 MRU, Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army.

(3) Attachments:

4th Infantry Division with normal attachments is attached VII Corps on order of First Army upon being relieved by 83rd Infantry Division, beginning 3 Dec 44.

AUTH: Opns Memo 124, Hq VII Corps, 3 Dec 44.

On order First Army, 1 Inf Div (745 Tk Bn, 634 TD Bn, 103 AAA AW Bn, attached) will be relieved by 9 Inf Div (746 Tk Bn, 899 TD Bn, 376 AAA AW Bn, attached) by successive combat teams beginning 5 Dec 44.

400 Armd FA Bn is relieved from attachment to V Corps and is attached to VII Corps on order First Army effective upon its relief by 196 FA Bn in present positions.

AUTH: Opns Memo 125, Hq VII Corps, 5 Dec 44.

On order First Army 193 FA Bn (105 How) is attached to VII Corps, 13 Dec 44.

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AUTH: Opns Memo 130, Hq VII Corps, 13 Dec 44.

6 Fusilier Bn (Belgian) (less 4th and 5th Cos) is attached to VII Corps effective 12 Dec 44.

AUTH: Opns Memo 131, Hq VII Corps, 14 Dec 44

83 Inf Div will assume responsibility of the 4 Inf Div zone of action effective 071600.

CT 8 (4 Inf Div) is attached 83 Inf Div effective 071600.

AUTH: Opns Memo 127, Hq VII Corps, 7 Dec 44.

RCT 16 (less 2nd Bn, 16 Inf, and 7 FA Bn) is detached from V Corps, reverts to VII Corps and 1st Inf Div effective 11 Dec 44.

2nd Bn, 16 Inf (1 Inf Div) is detached from V Corps, reverts to VII Corps and 1 Inf Div effective 13 Dec 44.

7 FA Bn is detached from V Corps, reverts to VII Corps and 1 Inf Div effective 151200A 44.

5 FA Bn is detached from V Corps, reverts to VII Corps and 1 Inf Div effective 161500A 44.

AUTH: Opns Memo 132, Hq VII Corps, 16 Dec 44.

8 Inf Div, 78 Inf Div, CG Anderson (5 Armd Div) & 102 Cav Gp, all with normal attachments, are relieved from attachment to V Corps and attached to VII Corps effective 181500A.

One plat Btry C, 226 AL Bn (SL) is attached VII Corps effective 171600A and is further attached to 109 AAA Gp.

RCT 60 & Co C 87 Cml Bn are detached from 9 Inf Div and attached 104 Inf Div effective 182400A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 133, Hq VII Corps, 18 Dec 44.

76 FA Bn (105 How) is attached VII Corps effective 191200A.

Btry A, 285 FA Obsn Bn is attached VII Corps effective 200600A.

628 TD Bn (SP) is attached VII Corps effective 190900A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 134, Hq VII Corps, 21 Dec 44.

Plat Co A, 738 Tk Bn is detached from 5 Armd Div and reverts to parent unit control effective 211130A.

Hq 4 Cav Gp w/759 Tk Bn (L) (- Co C), 635 TD Bn (T), 4 Cav Sq, 24 Cav Sq, and Co A, 297 Engr C Bn, is detached from 5 Armd Div and reverts to Corps control effective 212400A.

Co D, 87 Cml Bn is detached from 5 Armd Div and reverts to control of parent unit 212400A.

629 TD Bn (SP) is detached from 83 Inf Div and reverts to Corps control effective 212400A.

RCT 60 (60 Inf, 60 FA Bn (105 How), Co B, 746 Tk Bn, Co B, 899 TD Bn (SP), Plat, Co C, 15 Engr C Bn, Co C, 9 Med Bn, Btry C, 376 [illegible] Bn (SP) is detached from 104 Inf Div and passes to VII Corps control effective 212400A.

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188 FA Bn (155 How) is detached from 104 Inf Div and reverts to Corps control effective 212400A.

750 Tk Bn is detached from 104 Inf Div and passes to VII Corps control effective 212400A.

Cos B and C, 87 Cml Bn are detached from 104 Inf Div effective 221200. Co B reverts to control of parent unit, Co C is attached to HQT 60, effective same time and date.

629 TD Bn (SP) is detached from 83 Inf Div and reverts to Corps control effective 212400A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 135, HQ VII Corps, 21 Dec 44.

On order First Army:

75 Inf Div w/attachments listed below, is attached VII Corps effective 221200A.

750 Tk Bn

629 TD Bn

84 Inf Div w/normal attachments listed below, is attached VII Corps effective 221200A.

557 AAA AW Bn (-)

771 Tk Bn

638 TD Bn (SP)

2 Armd Div w/normal attachments listed below, is attached VII Corps effective 231200A.

195 AAA AW Bn (SP)

702 TD Bn (SP)

3 Armd Div (less CC B attachment) w/attachments listed below is attached VII Corps effective 231600A.

486 AAA AW Bn (SP)

1111 Engr C Gp, composition as listed below, is attached VII Corps effective 231600A.

Hq & Hq Co, 1111 Engr C Gp

91 Engr C Bn

61 Engr C Bn

307 Engr C Bn (-1 Co only)

291 Engr C Bn (-1 Co and 2 Plts w/3rd Inf Div)

300 Engr C Bn

902 Engr Maint Co

505 Engr Ldg Pon Co (effective 24 Dec 44)

628 TD Bn (SP) (90mm) is attached VII Corps and subsequently attached 3 Armd Div effective 231600A.

Co C, 87 Cml Bn is detached from HQT 60 (9 Inf Div) and reverts to control of parent unit effective 230900A.

440 AAA AW Bn (-) is attached VII Corps and further attached 75 Inf Div effective 221200A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 136, HQ VII Corps, 24 Dec 44.

Co's A & B 300 Engr C Bn are attached 84 Inf Div effective 23 Dec 44.

505 Engr Ldg Pon Co is attached VII Corps and 1111 Engr C Gp effective 24 Dec 44.

The following units are attached 3 Armd Div effective at times and dates indicated:

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509th Sep. Prcht Inf Bn (242400)
1 Bn, 517 Prcht Inf (221200)
AUTH: Opns Memo 137, Hq VII Corps, 25 Dec 44.

CC Boudinot (Btry B, 486 AAA AW Bn (SP) attached) reverts to control VII Corps and 3 Armd Div effective 251100A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 139, Hq VII Corps, 25 Dec 44.

634 TD Bn (T) (less Co C and 2 plats Co A) is attached 1 TD Gp effective 261200A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 141, Hq VII Corps, 29 Dec 44.

2 Plat, Btry C, 226 AA SL Bn is attached VII Corps and is further attached 109 AAA Gp effective 31 Dec 44.

AUTH: Opns Memo 142, Hq VII Corps, 31 Dec 44.

(4) Detachments:

One RCT (reinf) 1 Inf Div will relieve elements V Corps in [illegible] area and will be attached V Corps effective upon completion of relief.
196 FA Bn is relieved from attachment VII Corps effective 031200A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 125, Hq VII Corps, 5 Dec 44

In Order First Army 16 RCT, 1 Inf Div, (to include 16 Inf Regt, 7 FA Bn, 5 FA Bn, Co [illegible], 1 Armr C Bn, Btries A & C, 103 AAA AW Bn, Co [illegible], 745 Tk Bn, Co C, 634 TD Bn, Co A, 1 Med Bn, Assault Gun Plat, 745 Tk Bn) is attached V Corps effective 052400A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 126, Hq VII Corps, 6 Dec 44.

RCT 26 (1 Inf Div) is attached to V Corps effective 161400A.
58 Armd FA Bn is detached from VII Corps and 3 Armd Div and attached to VIII Corps effective 170600A.
751 FA Bn (155 How) is detached from VII Corps and attached V Corps effective 160600A.
Btry [illegible], 987 FA Bn (155 G) (SP) is detached from VII Corps and 5 Armd Div and attached V Corps effective 160600A.
Btry B, 285 FA Obsn Bn is detached from VII Corps and attached VIII Corps effective 170600A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 132, Hq VII Corps, 16 Dec 44.

9 Inf Div (less RCT 47 and RCT 60), with normal attachments, is relieved from attachment VII Corps and attached V Corps effective 182400A.
CC Hickey (3 Armd Div) is detached from VII Corps and 3 Armd Div and attached V Corps effective 181200A.

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400 Armd FA Bn is detached from VII Corps and attached V Corps effective 181200A.

703 TD Bn (SP) is detached from VII Corps and 3 Armd Div and attached V Corps effective 172000A.

RCT 47 (9 Inf Div) is detached from VII Corps and 9 Inf Div and attached V Corps 171100A.

1 Inf Div (less 26 RCT) is relieved from attachment to VII Corps and attached to V Corps effective 171100A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 133, Hq VII Corps, 18 Dec 44.

3 Armd Div (less CC Hickey and 703 TD Bn (SP) is relieved of attachment to VII Corps and attached V Corps 19 Dec 44.

991 FA Bn (155 Gun SP) (less Btry B) is detached from VII Corps and is attached XVIII Corps effective 191800A.

501 Engr L Pon Co is detached from VII Corps and 1106 Engr C Gp and is attached First Army and 1111 Engr C Gp effective 20 Dec 44.

AUTH: Opns Memo 134, Hq VII Corps, 21 Dec 44.

The following units are relieved from Attachment VII Corps and are attached as indicated:

Unit	Effective Date	Attached To
5 Armd Div (-CC Anderson) 387 AAA AW Bn (M) 2 Bn 330 Inf (83 Inf Div)	212400A	XIX Corps
CC Anderson (5 Armd Div) (less Co A, 10 Armd Bn & Co A, 47 Armd Inf Bn)	211300A	V Corps
8 Inf Div 817 TD Bn (T) 445 AAA AW Bn (M) Cos C & D, 709 Tk Bn RCT 311 (78 Inf Div) Co B, 86 Cml Bn Co B, 644 TD Bn (SP)	212400A	XIX Corps
78 Inf Div 893 TD Bn (SP) 709 Tk Bn (-Cos C & D) 552 AAA AW Bn (M) 102 Cav Gp, consisting of: Tr A, 38 Cav Sq 102 Cav Sq 2 Ranger Bn 628 TD Bn (SP) Co A, 86 Cml Bn	212400A	XIX Corps

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83 Inf Div 453 AAA AW Bn 774 Tk Bn	212400A	XIX Corps
104 Inf Div 555 AAA AW Bn (M) 692 TD Bn (T)	212400A	XIX Corps
6 Belgium Fusilier Bn (less Cos 4 & 5)	212400A	XIX Corps
690 FA Bn (105 How)	212400A	XIX Corps
Btry A, 285 FA Obsn Bn	212400A	XIX Corps
76 FA Bn (105 How)	211800A	V Corps
Co A, 738 Tk Bn	211300A	parent unit

AUTH: Opns Memo 135, Hq VII Corps, 21 Dec 44.

RCT 60 (9 Inf Div), 60 Inf, 60 FA Bn (105 How), Co B, 746 Tk Bn, Co B, 899 TD Bn (SP), Plat Co C, 15 Engr C Bn, Co C, 9 Leo Bn, 376 AAA AW Bn (M) is detached from VII Corps and 2 Armd Div and passes to control V Corps and 9 Inf Div effective 230900A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 136, Hq VII Corps, 24 Dec 44.

49 Engr C Bn is detached from VII Corps and 1120 Engr C Gp and attached XVIII Corps and 1106 Engr C Gp effective 24 Dec 44.

1106 Engr C Gp (Hq & Hq Co, 1106 Engr C Gp, 237 Engr C Bn, 238 Engr C Bn, 994 Engr Trdwy Br Co) is detached from VII Corps and attached XVIII Corps 22 Dec 44.

AUTH: Opns Memo 137, Hq VII Corps, 25 Dec 44.

One Plat, Btry C, 226 AA SL Bn (S) is detached from VII Corps, and 109 AAA Gp effective 212400A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 139, Hq VII Corps, 25 Dec 44.

LCVP Unit No 1, U. S. Navy, is detached from VII Corps and 1106 Engr C Gp effective 212400A.

1 Bn, 517 Prcht Inf is detached VII Corps and 3 Armd Div and revert to control XVIII Corps effective 271000A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 140, Hq VII Corps, 28 Dec 44.

RCT 289 (75 Inf Div) passes to control XVIII Corps effective 291600A.

75 Inf Div (less RCT 289) & RCT 290) passes to control XVIII Corps effective 281200A Dec 44.

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509 Prcht Inf Bn is attached XVIII Corps effective 291600A.

18 FA Bn (105 How) is relieved from attachment VII Corps and is attached XVIII Corps effective 281200A.

61 Engr C Bn is relieved from attachment VII Corps (1111 Engr C Gp) and is attached V Corps effective 290800A.

2 Bn, 291 Inf is relieved from attachment 2 Armd Div and reverts to control 75 Inf Div effective 281200A.

AUTH: Ophs Memo 141, Hq VII Corps, 29 Dec 44.

c.) STRENGTH:

Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 1 Dec 44:

93 Officers
14 Warrant Officers
263 Enlisted Men

Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 31 Dec 44:

97 Officers
14 Warrant Officers
243 Enlisted Men
Net gain for period: 4 officers
Net loss for period: 20 enlisted men

VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 1 Dec 44: 87,308

VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 31 Dec 44: 96,515

Net gain for period: 9,207.

AUTH: Morning Reports 5 MAU & Hq Co, VII Corps.

d.) STATIONS:

22 Dec 44 left [illegible], [illegible] (N-9037).
22 Dec 44 arrived BASSINNES, [illegible] (P-2999).

e.) CAMPAIGNS:

(1) a. Continuation of the advance east in Germany, clearing the west bank of the RUR River. Relief by XIX Corps of positions along RUR River; rapid move back to Belgium.

b. Stopping the German counter-offensive of 16 Dec 44 at its wester most point of advance forcing enemy back to the defensive.

(2) Purpose:

To clear the west bank of the RUR River, prior to crossing and continuing the attack toward the RHINE River and KOLN (P-4460).

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To stop the German counter-offensive at the western most point; stabilizing the right flank of First U. S. Army, to be prepared to attack, driving the enemy back into Germany and destroying him.

(3) Duration:

Continuing on 1 Dec 44 to 21 Dec 44.
Begun on 22 Dec 44 and continuing with the latter phase not completed on 31 Dec 44.

AUTH: (a) Field Order, No. 13, Hq VII Corps, dated 8 Dec 44; First U.S. Army letter of Instruction, dated 21 Dec 44, Register No. 300, classified "Top Secret"; Opns Memoranda, Hq VII Corps.

f.) BATTLES:

See narrative report, (Appendix, No. 1)

g.) COMMANDING OFFICERS:

(1) Corps Commander: Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins.
(2) Division Commanders:

1 Inf Div:	Maj Gen Clarence R. Huebner
	Brig Gen Clift Andrus
4 Inf Div:	Maj Gen Raymond O. Barton
8 Inf Div:	Maj Gen William G. Weaver
9 Inf Div:	Maj Gen Louis A.Craig
75 Inf Div:	Maj Gen Fay B. Prickett
78 Inf Div:	Maj Gen Edwin P. Parker
83 Inf Div:	Maj Gen Robert C. Macon
84 Inf Div:	Brig Gen Alexander R. Bolling
104 Inf Div:	Maj Gen Terry de la M. Allen
2 Armd Div:	Maj Gen Ernest N. Harmon
3 Armd Div:	Maj Gen Maurice Rose
5 Armd Div:	Maj Gen Lunsford E. Oliver

(3) Corps Arty Commander: Brig Gen Williston B. Palmer.

h.) LOSSES IN ACTION:

(1) Brown, Bernard B. 18113743, S/Sgt, Det B, 153 Liaison Sq (AC) atchd to Hq Co VII Corps, dy to KIA, 24 Dec 44; shot down by E/A, crashed and burned near FLEMON (R-5525). Belgium.
(2) Ryley, Francis J. 31367318, Pfc, Tech Int Team No. 2892 atchd to Hq VII Corps fr dy to KIA in Germany 3 Dec 44 while removing enemy mines.

AUTH: Morning Reports, Hq Co VII Corps, U. S. Army

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(2). VII Corps, U.S. Army:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTAL
Officers	55	196	33	0	284
Enlisted men	754	2837	778	5	4374
Grand Total	*809	3033	811	5	4658

*Of the total, 143 died of wounds.
There were no casualties among warrant officers.

AUTH: S MEU, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army.

i.) FORMER AND PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL— Under the provisions of AR 600-45 dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and Circular No. 66, Headquarters First United States Army dated 18 May 1944, as amended, the bronze star medal is awarded the following officer:

FIRST LIEUTENANT WILLIAM W. CARSON JR. 0440408 Field Artillery, then Battery A 18th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 8 July 1944 to 8 September 1944 in France and Belgium. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

AUTH: General Orders No. 85, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army.

j.) PHOTOGRAPHS:

(1) See Enclosure No. 10.
(2) Additional photographs covering the period of this report will be submitted as received from Army Pictorial Services.

[illegible] Reports:

Lawton Buller

APPENDICES:
1. Narrative.
2. Staff List (Directory of officers, Hq VII Corps).
3. Casualty & P.W. list as compiled by G-1 Sect, VII Corps

ENCLOSURES:
1. Field Orders
2. Battle Casualties (G-1)
3. Periodic Reports (G-3)
4. Sitreps (G-3), (Situation Reports)
5. Operations Memoranda

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
A. P. O. 307, U.S.Army

K:

1 January 1945

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

ASSIGNMENT	NAME	RANK	ASN	BRANCH	COMPONENT
COMMANDING GENERAL	J LAWTON COLLINS	Maj Gen	05247	USA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	JOHN J WALSH	Maj	0391208	FA	RES
Aide-de-Camp	FRANCIS X DRISCOLL	Capt	0420039	Inf	RES
CORPS ARTY COMMANDER	(1)WILLISTON B PALMER	Brig Gen	012246	USA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	(1)WILLIAM W CARSON Jr	1st Lt	0440408	FA	RES
CHIEF OF STAFF	RICHARD C PARTRIDGE	Col	012630	GSC	RA
Deputy Chief of Staff	HOWARD S SEARLE	Col	0123165	GSC	NG
Liaison Off	GIBSON S PETERSON	Maj	0363994	Cav	RES
Liaison Off	WALTER W DILLARD	Capt	0327063	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JOHN R HOLLINSHEAD	Capt	0327349	CE	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES C JOHNSON	Capt	0304772	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES W GORMAN	Capt	0285768	FA	RES
Liaison Off	CHARLES W BAER	Capt	0361373	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	WILLIAM W MAXEY	1st Lt	01175792	FA	AUS
Liaison Off	(2)GEORGES RAGACHE	Aspirant			
Chief Clerk	WILLIAM B MADDOCK	WOJG	W2131284	USA	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-1	JOHN D HIGGINS	Col	0152349	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	EDWARD M FRIEND Jr	Lt Col	0310219	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE E POWLES	Maj	0309753	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	(3)MURRAY A CLYBURN	Maj	0347661	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE M RISER	Capt	0228767	FA	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-2	LESLIE D CARTER	Col	010663	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2	DAVID B GOODWIN	Lt Col	021914	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2(Air O)	WILLIAM C JESSE	Lt Col	0302992	Cav	NG
Asst A C of S G-2	KENNETH L HOUSTON	Maj	0326319	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	CARL J WILSON	Capt	0383386	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	IGNACE L EPHRUSSI	1st Lt	0574526	AC	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	CHARLES J BRUCKEN	1st Lt	01002589	AGD	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	PRESTON M MARKWARD	WOJG	W2131280	USA	AUS
	OB UNIT NO 6				
	(4)ALEXANDER BLAZEVICIUS	1st Lt	01296983	Inf	AUS
	PI TEAM NO 10				
	(4)LOUIS BATT	Capt	01045664	CAC	AUS
	(4)MORRIS GLASS	1st Lt	01994434	AUS	AUS
	PI TEAM NO 29				
	(4)PATSY M MIRAGLIA	1st Lt	01591321	QMC	AUS
	(4)LEE J WOOD	1st Lt	01303585	Inf	AUS

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	IPW TEAM NO 16				
	(4)MAX SCHLOSSBERG	1st Lt	01162701	FA	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 36				
	(4)ADAM J EISENHAUER	Capt	0393829	CAC	RES
	(4)ARTHUR HAHN	2d Lt	01999427	AUS	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 44				
	(4)JOHN P BERNHARDT	1st Lt	01180419	FA	AUS
	PI TEAM NO 129				
	(4)EYVIND JACOBSEN	2d Lt	01302976	Inf	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 159				
	(4)PETER K HEIMANN	2d Lt	01059488	CAC	AUS
	(4)LEON WEINDLING	2d Lt	0927245	AUS	AUS
	IPW TEAM NO 160				
	(4)ANTHONY C LEHNER	1st Lt	01642312	AC	AUS
	(4)ROBERT M SINGER	2d Lt	0986364	AUS	AUS
	MII TEAM NO 402G				
	(4)HELMUT STRAUSS	2d Lt	0555188	AUS	AUS
	MII TEAM NO 419				
	(4)PIERRE P LABRECHE	1st Lt	01303258	Inf	AUS
	(4)MAX OPPENHEIMER Jr	2d Lt	01998024	AUS	AUS
	21ST WEATHER SQ DET "HH"				
	LUCIUS A PERRY Jr	Capt	0362518	AC	AUS
	ELBERT C HERRICK	2d Lt	0865468	AC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-3	ORLANDO C TROXEL Jr	Col	018487	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-3 (Air O)	THURSTON T PAUL Jr	Lt Col	0342848	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT W DUKE	Lt Col	0365127	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	HENRY N HENRY	Lt Col	0246714	FA	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	BERGIN V DICKEY	Lt Col	0360244	Inf	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT J ROSA	Maj	0352011	Cav	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	JOHN W STARK	Maj	0360508	CAC	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	NED R DICKSON	Maj	0389040	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	JOSEPH V PACE Jr	Capt	0390720	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	FRANCIS B MOBLEY Jr	Capt	0390599	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	NICHOLAS McINTIRE	2d Lt	01049982	CAC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-4	JAMES G ANDING	Col	015677	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-4	THOMAS N FIGUERO	Lt Col	0398172	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-4	LEA C ROBERTS	Maj	0349693	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	IRA J HOLTON	Maj	0453734	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	ALFRED F MOFFITT Jr	Capt	0366233	Inf	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-5	DELL B HARDIN	Col	0171321	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	FRANK H McFARLAND	Lt Col	0190171	GSC	NG

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps
1 Jan 1945 continued.

ADJUTANT GENERAL	LAWTON BUTLER	Col	016921	AGD	RA
Asst AG	JACKSON C BAINES	Lt Col	0264141	AGD	RES
Asst AG	ROBERT J SMITH	Maj	0348305	AGD	NG
Asst AG	FRED O BERGMAN	Capt	01000913	AGD	AUS
Postal Off	(5)JAMES A DOLAN	1st Lt	01297855	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	EARL M WILLIAMS	CWO	W2114245	USA	AUS
Asst AG	(6)CARL A ALIPANO	WOJG	W2109898	USA	AUS
	5th MRU (M)				
Asst AG	HAROLD K DOWNEY	Capt	01263046	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	FRANCIS L GUILDOYLE	1st Lt	01001796	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	WILLIAM H MUSSER Jr	1st Lt	01002998	AGD	AUS
	APU 154				
	DAN W SCANNELL	1st Lt	01000855	AGD	AUS
INSPECTOR GENERAL	JOHN W NICHOLSON	Col	05603	IGD	RA
Asst IG	MILES N CULHAN	Lt Col	0137847	IGD	NG
Asst IG	ROBERT L SNYDER	Maj	0304569	IGD	RES
Asst IG	VICTOR A DARLING	Capt	0329375	IGD	AUS
Asst IG	LEONARD HOFFMAN	CWO	W2114256	USA	AUS
JUDGE ADVOCATE	RICHARD F WELCH	Col	0225556	JAGD	RES
Asst JA	EDWARD L VanRODEN	Lt Col	0179586	JAGD	RES
QUARTERMASTER	PAUL E WARFIELD	Col	0246401	QMC	NG
Asst QM	JOHN G TAPP	Lt Col	0329067	QMC	RES
Asst QM	JOHN C HARRISON	Maj	0342679	QMC	RES
Asst QM	(4)JUAN A PALEN	Maj	0326000	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HERMAN B BOYLE Jr	Maj	0393313	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HARRY P HUTTLAS	1st Lt	01110576	QMC	AUS
Asst QM	(4)NED L ARCENEAUX	WOJG	W2109890	USA	AUS
SURGEON	ROBERT H BARR	Col	0240710	MC	RES
Asst Surg	JAMES R FANCHER	Lt Col	0360582	MC	NG
Asst Surg	JOSEPH E BANKS	Maj	0496405	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	NORMAN C ROBISON	Maj	0472662	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	(4)JAMES T ASCH	Capt	0447621	MC	RES
Chief Clerk	LAWRENCE A BECCO	CWO	W2111253	USA	AUS
FINANCE OFFICER	ELMER A STROM	Col	0232150	FD	NG
Asst Fin Off	ANDREW S DONNELLY	Capt	02040950	FD	AUS
Asst Fin Off	(6)LESLIE R YOCUM	CWO	W2109671	USA	AUS
CHEMICAL OFFICER	JACK A BARNES	Lt Col	0283115	CWS	RES
Asst Cml Off	IRWIN W SHUTT	Maj	0346833	CWS	RES
ENGINEER	MASON J YOUNG	Col	03788	CE	RA
Asst Engr	HENRY M BLACK	Lt Col	0259093	CE	RES
Asst Engr	GLENN H PLUMLEE	Maj	0362969	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ALBION W KNIGHT	Capt	0366716	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ROBERT M GILLESPIE	Capt	0364884	CE	RES
Asst Engr	PHILIP B SMITH	Capt	01102061	CE	AUS

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ORDNANCE OFFICER	ARTHUR H LUSE	Col	07537	Ord Dept	RA
Asst Ord Off	MARTIN F SHAUGHNESSY	Lt Col	0323425	Ord Dept	NG
Asst Ord Off	SAMUEL M COHEN	Maj	0422951	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	RICHARD A GRINNELL	Maj	0392097	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN SUNNTEK	Capt	0387454	Inf	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN C BELLOWS	Capt	0416205	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	WILLIAM D HALL JR	WOJG	W2120959	USA	AUS
SIGNAL OFFICER	JOHN A SAWYER	Col	017177	Sig C	RA
Asst Sig Off	CHARLES T WEGNER	Maj	0276309	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	HUGH SMITH (DS)	Capt	0351648	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	EMMET B PORTER	Capt	0377498	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	JOHN BRAWLEY	Capt	01634554	Sig C	AUS
Asst Sig Off	VICTOR G FLORENCE	CWO	W2109861	USA	AUS
	165th Sig Photo Co Det "B"				
	RALPH N TUDOR	1st Lt	01636694	Sig C	AUS
CHAPLAIN	F HERBERT MOEHLMANN	Col	017986	Ch	RA
Asst Ch	PATRICK J GLEESON	Lt Col	0325091	Ch	RES
	SIDNEY M LEFKOWITZ(DS)	Capt	0471729	Ch	AUS
SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER	ROBERT R WILSON	Maj	0289950	Inf	NG
Asst Sp Sv Off	(4)WILLIAM C SMITH Jr	1st Lt	0375518	FA	RES
PROVOST MARSHAL	(6)JOHN D BRADLEY Jr	Lt Col	0341714	Cav	RES
Asst PM	WILLIS H ROSS	Maj	0270426	CE	RES
Asst PM	EVERT HEATH	1st Lt	01304211	Inf	AUS
AIR SUPPORT PARTY OFF					
FR HQ IX FI COMD	(4)SIDNEY F BRODY	Lt Col	0428933	AC	NG
	(4)RICHARD V WHEELER	Capt	026098	AC	RA
	(4)ERNEST J PORTER	1st Lt	0739991	AC	RES
	(4)QUENTIN C [illegible]ENSON	1st Lt	0763482	AC	AUS
CIC DET NO 207					
COMMANDING OFFICER	JAMES K DORSETT JR	Maj	0362283	Inf	RES
Executive	JOHN H HEMINWAY	Capt	01302652	Inf	AUS
	EDWARD C STOLLENWERCK	1st Lt	01304812	Inf	AUS
	JOHN H REBER	2d Lt	0887407	AUS	AUS
	DANIEL B BADGER	2d Lt	0887384	AUS	AUS
	PENTON MORAN	2d Lt	01996388	AUS	AUS
	ALBERT L PERRY	2d Lt	01999320	AUS	AUS
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY VII CORPS					
HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT	LAWRENCE L LARSEN	Capt	0352065	Inf	RES
Executive Off	FREDERICK FERGUSON	Capt	0388735	Inf	RES
Supply Off	SHERWOOD V GREGORY	1st Lt	01290594	Inf	AUS
Asst Supply Off	JOHN J McGEE	1st Lt	0532462	Inf	RES
Personnel Off	JAMES L HAYES	CWO	W2116181	USA	AUS
Mess Off	JAMES L WHITEHURST	CWO	W2109873	USA	AUS
Asst Supply Off	FREDERICK D HEIM	WOJG	W2116182	USA	AUS
Motor Off	MAX A LOOMIS	WOJG	W2109892	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES F BROWER	WOJG	W2116[illegible]	USA	AUS

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
1 Jan 1945 continued.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT VII CORPS					
Medical Off	THEODORE S WRIGHT	Capt	0500245	MC	AUS
Dental Off	RUDOLPH J FALKIN	Capt	01689861	DC	AUS
Medical Off	(7)LUTHER R LEWIS	Capt	01696250	MC	AUS
Medical Off	(7)WILLIAM A BENDER	Capt	01695377	MC	AUS
1ST PLAT 506TH QM CAR CO					
COMMANDING OFFICER	OLIVER R DAVIS	1st Lt	01581650	QMC	AUS
DUTY UNANNOUNCED	(6)OLIVER W HARTWELL (DS)	Lt Col	0323150	Inf	
	(4)FRANK P ERESCH	Maj	0467963	JAGD	AUS
	JAMES G WILLIAMSON	Maj	0406586	CAC	AUS
	ROBERT S DUMPER (DS)	Capt	0350651	FA	RES
	VERNON W WHITE (DS)	Capt	0390831	Sig C	RES
	(4)WILLIAM G PHELPS	Capt	0436838	Cav	RES
	(2)PIERRE FREYSS (Fr)	Capt			
	(4)GEORGE E MOISE	2d Lt	01016758	Cav	AUS
	(4)ANTHONY W LAPINSKAS	2d Lt	01017968	Inf	AUS
	(4)ROBERT H CULVER	2d Lt	0530743	Sn C	AUS
	(4)FRED L HADSEL	2d Lt	01799048	CMP	AUS
AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR		CHARLES C BROADDUS			
AMERICAN RED CROSS CLUBMOBILE UNIT "D"					
GROUP CAPTAIN		HOPE J SIMPSON			
Asst Group Captain		SUSAN BOYLE			

Note: (1) indicates asgd Hq & Hq Btry VII Corps Arty
(2) indicates atchd fr French Army
(3) indicates atchd unasgd to Hq VII Corps
(4) indicates atchd to Hq VII Corps
(5) indicates CO 307th APU
(6) indicates asgd to Hq Co VII Corps
(7) indicates atchd to Med Det VII Corps

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Appendix No 3 To Action Against Enemy, Report After/After Action Report (Rc 7) of VII Corps, U. S. Army, for 1-31 December, 1944.

DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES, VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY BY TYPE, FOR THE PERIOD, 1-31 DECEMBER, 1944.

DATE	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTALS
1	35	461	44	0	540
2	58	633	27	0	718
3	33	386	18	0	437
4	45	291	179	0	515
5	78	239	71	2	390
6	20	131	41	0	201
7	48	147	53	0	248
8	12	75	5	0	92
9	2	49	20	2	79
10	55	318	3	0	376
11	62	299	26	0	487
12	96	694	72	0	862
13	171	665	68	1	905
14	98	430	75	0	603
15	41	227	72	0	340
16	47	224	37	0	308
17	19	184	26	0	229
18	50	166	30	1	237
19	24	123	28	1	176
20	23	103	22	1	149
21	24	83	14	4	125
22-23	18	57	24	0	99
24	18	103	81	0	202
25	44	275	203	1	523
26	66	332	134	0	532
27	50	252	53	0	355
28	29	114	65	0	208
29	32	152	37	1	222
30	15	51	9	0	78
31	3	23	5	0	31
Totals	1321	7300	1442	14	10,167

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DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES, VII CORPS, U.S. ARMY
BY TYPE FOR THIS PERIOD, 1-31 DECEMBER, 1944

Date	1ID.	4ID.	8ID.	9ID.	75ID.	78ID.	83ID.	84ID.	104ID.	2AD.	3AD.	5AD.	CTs	Tot
	--- Unit ---													
1	70	210							50		0	202-a	8	540
2	41	307							76		0	263-a	31	718
3	57	212					14-b		38		0	92-a	24	437
4	18	108					77-b		291		0	1-a	20	515
5	4	134					107-b		131		6	0-a	8	390
6	2	70					82		39		0	0-a	8	201
7	2	102		2			58		82		0	0-a	2	248
8	0			12			47		20		0	7-a	6	92
9	0			8			59		9		0	0-a	3	79
10	2			62			191		49		58	0-a	14	376
11	1			175			99		83		61	19-a	49	487
12	0			183			373		95		59	95-a	57	862
13	0			96			135		119		34	477-a	44	905
14	3			89			396		41		1	52-a	21	603
15	0			32			203		34		0	39-a	32	340
16	0			47			119		16		0	66-a	60	308
17				21			107		21		0	61-a	19	229
18			45	1-d		42	61		16		2-c	22	48	237
19			20	14-d		48-e	38		0			40	7	176
20			27	19-d		34-e	32		2			14	11	149
21			8	0-d		14-e	3		1			35	61	125
22)														
23)					6			9		0	60-f		24	99
24					1									
25					252			37		2	143		12	202
26					231			109		27	117		18	523
27					182			176		81	13		31	532
28					14-g		0	120		35	11		7	355
29					63-g		17	58		58	14		17	208
30					30-h		49	31		20	8		51	222
31					0-h		24	15		2	1		6	78
							0	18		8	0		5	31
Grand Total	200	1143	100	761	909	130	2281	573	1222	233	588	1485	734	10,167

Legend:

ID - Infantry Division
AD - Armored Division
CT - Corps Troops
a - less CC Anderson (res)
b - 330 RCT only
c - less CC Hickey
d - RCT 60 only
e - less One RCT
f - less CC Roudiret
g - 2 RCTs only.

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PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED BY VII CORPS, U.S. ARMY FROM 1-31 DECEMBER, 1944.

Date	No.
1	134
2	204
3	357
4	305
5	98
6	27
7	164
8	32
9	7
10	144
11	734
12	874
13	440
14	582
15	279
16	247
17	224
18	417
19	91
20	89
21	68
22	0
23	21
24	193
25	529
26	411
27	775
28	448
29	113
30	58
31	238
Total	8303

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Appendix No 1 To Action Against Enemy, Report After/After Action Report (No 7) VII Corps, U.S. Army, for the period: 1 - 31 December 44, Incl.

- -

HISTORY OF VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY

DURING OPERATIONS IN GERMANY AND

BELGIUM FROM 1-31 DECEMBER, 1944

I. Continuation of the eastward advance in Germany to the west bank of the RUR River (1-22).

II. Relief by XIX Corps of positions on Rur River; rapid move to BOTTON - MARCHE - NODAVE - MONTVILLE area of Belgium and participation in stopping the westernmost advance of Germany counter-offensive, and preparation for resuming attack.

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1 DECEMBER 1944

House to house fighting continued in INDEN (F-0662) with our troops meeting determined resistance in their efforts to clear the town and establish a bridgehead across the INDE River. East of LAMERSDORF (F-0217) in the STUCKRADT-HOF (F-0417) area opposition remained stubborn, and an enemy counter-attack, supported by a terrific mortar and artillery barrage neutralized our initial gains. Further to the southeast in JERODE (F-0415) the battle for that town raged for the third day with Companies E and F, 26th Infantry, still isolated from the rest of the Regiment. Progress was made in clearing the woods from JUNGERSDORF (F-0016) south toward JERODE. On the right flank our units made additional gains in the difficult forest area and at the end of the period held the high ground overlooking BEY (F-0739).

For the third consecutive day elements of the 20th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 3rd Panzer Grenadier Division, supported by two tanks, fought from the houses of INDEN trying to keep a foothold on the western bank of the INDE River. By nightfall all but the southernmost end of the town had been lost to the enemy. Artillery fire from both sides of the INDE River fell constantly on the defenders as well as the attackers, no effort being made by the enemy to limit his fire to the northern portion of town.

To the southeast elements of the 5th and 6th Regiments, 3rd Parachute Division, held strong points along the railroad [illegible] at the intersection of the cross-roads at F-0418.3, 300 yards north of the town, while to the north of JERODE other elements of the 5th Parachute Regiment fought in the woods and orchards until they were either captured or killed. In JERODE the enemy succeeded for a second day in preventing the relief of our forces which had been isolated in the western outskirts of the village.

In the BEY area, the enemy suffered his greatest setback. Two companies of infantry, while moving west from BEY, suffered heavy casualties as a result of our artillery fire. Shortly thereafter the remaining enemy in the area were forced to fall back to the western edge of [illegible] and [illegible] (F-0738). Northwest of BEY, in the vicinity of F-0[illegible], the enemy was more deliberate in his withdrawal, and employed a large number of [illegible] to slow the progress of our troops.

Fighter-bomber [illegible] in front of the [illegible] 104th Infantry Division west with one squadron [illegible] roads good. Railroads in the vicinity of [illegible] were cut in four places, a marshalling yard at F-0750 and [illegible] bombed.

4th Infantry Division (Combat Command Reserve, 5th Armored Division, and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Troops [illegible] enemy main line of resistance in advance to positions overlooking BEY. Units attempting to infiltrate on the left flank were repulsed.

1st Infantry Division (1st Cavalry Group, less [illegible] Squadron, attached): Continued to be heavily engaged with the enemy in the fight for JERODE with Companies E and F, 26th Infantry, still isolated. Gains were made in the forest to the south of JERODE. Positions were consolidated and patrols were active to the north and east.

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1 December SECRET

104th Infantry Division: Stubborn enemy resistance continued in INDEN with house to house fighting in progress.

3rd Armored Division: Continued maintenance of equipment and training of personnel. All units remained in the same locations as the previous period.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, and Combat Command Regnier, attached to 4th Infantry Division): Combat Command Cole remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of K-8428.

4th Infantry Division

The 4th Division attacked between 0815 and 0900 hours and by 1000 hours the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, had reached its objective (F-065395) and was digging in. The 46th Armored Infantry Battalion and the 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry (in that order from right to left) were making very slow progress at that time against heavy resistance from enemy using small arms, machine guns, mortars, and artillery. At 1100 the 46th Armored Infantry Battalion was ordered to withdraw to HILL 401 (F-0537) to the positions they had occupied the previous night and take up defensive positions on the extreme right flank. The 1st Battalion was committed between 2nd and 3rd Battalions with the missions of advancing forward and then attacking southeast in front of the 2nd Battalion to relieve some of the enemy pressure against that unit. The advance was very slow throughout the day against heavy resistance, especially on the right flank. At the close of the period our units occupied the following positions: Companies B, C, and A, 46th Armored Infantry Battalion, F-065376, F-063374, F-059373, respectively; 2nd Battalion, F-063383; 1st Battalion, F-067390 - F-070387 - F-067385; 3rd Battalion, F-058397 - F-062393 - F-067390.

In the center of the Division zone, the 12th Infantry attacked at 0900 to seize the line of departure (F-062408 - F-065394) in preparation for the attack of the 2nd and 1st Battalions on OBJ (F-0739). The progress of the attacking battalions was slow. Many strong points and heavy artillery fire were encountered. At 1115 the 1st Battalion reported the enemy (strength estimated at a platoon) had infiltrated from the northeast, attacked the 1st Battalion's command post and cut lines of communication. By 1330 the infiltrating enemy had been eliminated and communications restored. After reducing several enemy strong points the 2nd and 1st Battalions reached the high ground overlooking OBJ and supporting weapons were brought up. The 2nd Battalion organized positions at F-059394 - F-061397 with Company G at F-057397, and the 1st Battalion held the following positions: Company B, F-065399 - F-066403, Company A, F-060402 - F-058405, and Company C, F-062409. The 3rd Battalion remained in reserve in the vicinity of F-034410.

At 0015 hours the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 8th Infantry, attacked abreast against a well dug-in enemy using small arms and machine guns. By 1015 the battalions had encountered fields of anti-personnel and anti-tank mines. Enemy small arms fire was of such intensity that it was described as the "worst the 8th Infantry had run into on this front". At 1200 the 3rd Battalion was committed between the 2nd and 1st Battalions, and at that time the 2nd Battalion attempted to flank the enemy positions from the north. By 1445 the 2nd and 1st Battalions had cleared most of the enemy minefields. Company C advanced to F-054429 and were through the enemy's main line of resistance. The attack over very difficult terrain and heavily wooded country succeeded in gaining several

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key terrain features and this critical ground was held with positions being organized as follows: 1st Battalion, F-052421 - F-052426 - F-052426 - F-055-426; 3rd Battalion, F-055426 - F-054428 and F-052426 - F-052428; 2nd Battalion, F-049433 - F-053433 - F-052428.

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued its mission of maintaining road blocks, patrolling, maintaining contact between combat teams, and screening the rear areas of small groups of by-passed enemy. At 2400 the 46th Armored Infantry Battalion reverted to control of Combat Command Regnier, 5th Armored Division. All other elements of the Combat Command remained in assembly.

1st Infantry Division

Patrols of the 26th Infantry were able to advance only 300 yards toward MERODE (F-0445) before being stopped by enemy mortar fire. Efforts to reach MERODE were prevented by direct enemy fire and at the end of the period no word had been received from Companies E and F isolated in the town for 48 hours. Relief of the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, by the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, was completed at 0140 and at 0900 hours the 3rd Battalion was in the vicinity of F-041451 sweeping the woods for enemy. By 1525 the woods were reported cleared and the 3rd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of F-035445. Other units of the Regiment consolidated and improved front line positions with Companies A, B, G, C, and I holding the line: F-039443 - F-044444 - F-043453 - F-045454 - F-043460.

Relief of the 3rd Battalion, 26th Infantry, was completed by the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, at 0140 hours with positions being held at F-041462 to F-042467. Between 0615 and 0645 hours the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 18th Infantry, received very heavy enemy harassing fire in LANGERWEHE (F-0247). At 1120 hours one platoon of Company G attacked to clear the area of enemy around the crossroad in STUTGERHOF. Initial gains were made by the Company G elements, and several prisoners of war taken, but shortly afterwards a terrific enemy artillery barrage followed by a counter-attack was received. By 1552 the platoon at STUTGERHOF was pinched out after a heavy fight and the position retaken by the enemy. By 2320 a combat patrol worked its way in STUTGERHOF and managed to return with 10 men from the Company C platoon, including wounded. Contact was established with the 1st Battalion in JUNGERSDORF. The 2nd Battalion consolidated defensive positions along the line: F-037474 - F-038481 for the night. The 3rd Battalion remained in LANGERWEHE.

Companies A, B, C, and I of the 16th Infantry, continued to hold front line defensive positions which were improved and consolidated during the day. Locations of these companies at the close of the period were: F-027480, F-0[illegible], F-013477, and F-0214[illegible], respectively. During the day a patrol from Company A again went into the outskirts of [illegible] (F-03[illegible]). At 0915 another patrol worked its way into the village, returning after drawing enemy fire when they entered the first building. The 2nd Battalion closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of [illegible] at F-[illegible] by 1344, and the 3rd Battalion, less Company I, remained assembled in the vicinity of F-005477.

104th Infantry Division

The struggle for [illegible] (F-0252) developed during the day into one of the [illegible] fought and difficult battles of the entire operation. Bitter house

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to house fighting continued against determined enemy tank-infantry Teams. The 1st and 3rd Battalions and Company G, 413th Infantry with attached tanks and tank destroyer units, made some progress but it was very slow. At dusk the 413th Infantry forces held the north half of the [illegible] River town and a small portion of the southern section. All other units of the 104th Infantry Division remained in the same positions as at the close of the previous period.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 164 missions as follows: 5 preparation, 33 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 8 close support, 17 counterbattery, 2 tank, 61 interdiction and harassing, and 32 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3569.

4th Division: Fired 317 missions as follows: 7 preperation, 30 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 35 close support, 101 counterbattery, 125 interdiction and harassing, and 16 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 12,459.

104th Division: Fired 119 missions as follows: 14 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 2 close support, 10 counterbattery, 3 tank, 61 interdiction and harassing, and 19 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1880.

3rd Armored Division: Remained silent for the period 011200 - 021200.

5th Armored Division: Fired 7 missions - 2 counterbattery and 5 interdiction and harassing - an expenditure of 176 rounds.

Corps: Fired 178 missions as follows: 4 personnel, 2 close support, 97 counterbattery, 3 tank, 51 interdiction and harassing, and 21 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3893.

Note: All artillery reports are from 1200 to 1200.

Antiaircraft: 474th AAA AW Bn engaged 1 Me-109 at 1230. No claim was made. The 555th AAA AW Bn, attached to the 104th Div, engaged two enemy craft with results unknown. The 377th AAA AW Bn engaged one ME-109 at 1217, which dropped 6 fragmentation bombs over the 4th Div area. No casualties were reported or AA claims made. The 116th AAA Gun Bn fired 5 missions for VII Corps Arty on enemy concentrations, expending 256 rounds of 90mm unobserved fire.

Tank Destroyers: The 628th TD Bn fired 98 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on harassing and counterbattery missions. The 634th TD Bn expended 9 rounds of 3" HE, 14 rounds of 3" APC, and 8 rounds of 3" (Navy "star-shell") illuminating ammunition, all direct fire on two missions with excellent results. The 692nd TD Bn fired 278 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 803rd TD Bn expended 630 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 134.

2 DECEMBER 1944

After [illegible]DEN (F-0252) west of the [illegible]DE River was cleared of enemy, our forces crossed the stream at 2300 hours and at the close of the period were attacking to drive the enemy from that part of the town east of the [illegible]E.

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Other limited objective gains were made toward [illegible] (F-0450). Positions were consolidated in the center of the Corps zone. On the right flank slight progress was made and two strong counter-attacks repulsed. The two companies of the 26th Infantry, isolated in MERODE (F-0545) remained out of contact with the Regiment for the third successive day and were presumed to be missing in action by the 1st Division.

The main activity of the enemy during the period occurred on the right flank of VII Corps where the enemy launched a strong counter-attack at 0655 hours in the vicinity of F-065390, three-quarters of a mile west of STRAUG (F-0739). The attack made by elements of the 353rd Infantry Division, was unsupported by armor or artillery preparation. This attack penetrated to a point approximately one-half mile south of GEY (F-0739), an advance of 600 yards. While this enemy attack was in progress, he launched a second attack at 0830 hours with about 40 men from the 1057th Regiment, 91st Division, to regain positions lost the previous day in the vicinity of F-065400. This latter attack was quickly repulsed without any gain of ground by the enemy. Likewise, the earlier and heavier attack, although scoring an initial success, was unable to hold its gains, and by the close of the period the enemy had been forced back to his starting point.

On the northern flank of the Corps, the enemy was finally forced to yield all of the western part of [illegible] after resisting from small pockets in the southern section of the town. From the east bank of the [illegible] River two self-propelled guns and a moderate amount of artillery hampered the progress of our troops clearing the remaining enemy from between [illegible] and [illegible] (F-0050). The enemy was successful in damaging all three bridges in [illegible] before his withdrawal. Both the north and south bridges were capable of limited use, while the center span was completely destroyed. Little change in enemy activity in the vicinity of MERODE was noted, as artillery and self-propelled gun fire were his only observed actions.

On order of First U. S. Army the 4th Infantry Division with normal attachments was to be relieved by the 83rd Infantry Division with normal attachments by successive combat teams beginning 2 December. The 4th Division as relieved was to move by combat team to the area held by the 83rd Division and pass to control of VIII Corps.

Despite broken clouds early in the morning, which were overcast during the remainder of day with intermittent showers, the 4th and 10[illegible]th Infantry Divisions were each supported by a squadron of fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command. [illegible] (F-0554), [illegible] (F-1055), and six tanks in the vicinity of F-0749 were bombed. Considerable railroad traffic was attacked between the front lines and the [illegible] River.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Received a severe counter-attack on the right flank which was stopped during the morning after some penetration had been achieved by the enemy, but later in the period the original lines were restored by our forces with no loss of ground. A second enemy attack in the center of the zone was also repulsed and a limited objective gain made. The 46th Armored Infantry Battalion reverted to the control of Combat Command Regnier and after being relieved by elements of the 22nd Infantry assembled in [illegible] (F-0537), which had been taken by the 121st Infantry on 2[illegible] November. Combat Command Regnier reverted to 5th

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Armored Division control.

1st Infantry Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Consolidated positions and made a diversionary demonstration to assist the night attack of the 104th Division..

104th Infantry Division: After EMDEN was cleared west of the EMS River, elements crossed the stream and attacked to clear the eastern part of the town. Other units launched another successful night attack to reach limited objectives in the vicinity of F-034505.

3rd Armored Division: Remained in assembly areas and continued maintenance and training. Combat Command Hickey was in the vicinity of F-9341, 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment at K-9438; Combat Command Boudinot, K-9844; Combat Command Howze, K-9641.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson): Attack of Combat Command Regnier was cancelled, and the Command remained in an assembly area in the vicinity of K-9436. After being relieved from 4th Division, 46th Armored Infantry Battalion assembled in the vicinity of KLEINHAU. Combat Command Cole remained in the vicinity of K-8428. The 95th Reconnaissance Battalion assembled in the vicinity of K-9336.

4th Infantry Division

A heavy counter-attack was launched by the enemy at 0655 hours on the right flank of the Division between the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 22nd Infantry, and by 0845 hours had achieved a penetration of the front lines with enemy infiltrating into rear areas. The Regimental Reserves were committed and after hard fighting the situation was reported well in hand at 1300. The attack repulsed, units began mopping up operations and reorganization. Companies K and L swept the rear areas for enemy. Contact was reestablished among all units and positions consolidated. After the 46th Armored Infantry Battalion was relieved and withdrew to KLEINHAU, the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, less Company L, moved to the right flank in reserve at F-045385. Adjusted positions of the 22nd Infantry at the close of the period were as follows: 1st Battalion, F-067370 - F-071388 - F-067396; 2nd Battalion, F-062381 - F-065385 with Company F at F-063384.

The 12th Infantry in the center of the Division zone was also counter-attacked by the enemy at 0830 hours, but on a smaller and less severe scale then the 22nd Infantry. This attack was soon repulsed and at 1000 the 2nd Battalion attacked to reach the edge of the woods in the vicinity of F-063395 and make contact with the 22nd Infantry. By 1315 the 2nd Battalion had reached that locality. By 1700 the 1st and 2nd Battalions had consolidated positions as follows: Companies L, F, G, and E along the line: F-064395 - F-063403; Company A, F-061405; Company C, F-066409 - F-067407. The 3rd Battalion, less Company L, moved to the vicinity of F-045385, closing in that area by 1100.

At 0830 the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry, attacked to seize the objective (F-062432), and at 0900 the 1st and 3rd Battalions also resumed the offensive. All units moved forward slowly throughout the day against heavy resistance consisting of many well dug-in automatic weapons, mortars, machine guns, and small arms. All roads and trails were mined by the enemy which added to the

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rough, thickly wooded terrain made any rapid advance impossible. However, by 1300 Companies A, C and K had effected a penetration of the enemy's defenses, and the penetration was exploited to push these companies forward. The following positions were reached by 1600 and all units began consolidating for the night: Company B, F-052422 - F-052425; Companies A, C, and K, F-055425 - F-054429; Companies I, F, E, and G, F-052429 - F-051434.

1st Infantry Division

The 1st Division continued to consolidate and hold positions in LANGERWEHE, JUNGERSDORF, and southwest of MERODE. The 26th Infantry (1st and 3rd Battalions) continued to mop up in the KONIGL FOREST and held right flank defenses, southwest of MERODE. Patrols were sent to the front to maintain enemy contact. No word was received of Companies E and F, which were cut off by the enemy in MERODE on 30 November. The 18th Infantry while consolidating positions in the JUNGERSDORF and LANGERWEHE areas also maintained patrol contact with the enemy. The 16th Infantry on the left of the Division held positions with the 1st Battalion at F-013478 - F-022478 - F-027480 and Company I at F-021492. The 3rd Battalion remained in the vicinity of F-004477 and the 2nd Battalion was assembled at K-987467. Patrols again worked their way into LUCHEM and were engaged by the enemy.

104th Infantry Division

Ordered to attack during the night of 2/3 December to seize LUTZEBEN (F-0350) - GOLDSTEIN GRUBE (F-0350) - LUCHERBERG (F-0450), the 104th Division spent the daylight hours in clearing up INDEN and in conducting intensive reconnaissance of the INDE River from WEISWEILER (F-0048) north to ALTDORF (F-0353). At 2300 the first elements moved across the INDE River.

By 1700 the 1st and 3rd Battalions and Company G, 413th Infantry, had completed the job of securing INDEN, aided by tanks and tank destroyer units. The 1st Battalion remained in the northern part of the town, and the 3rd Battalion and Company G in the southern section. Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, had moved from ESCHWEILER (K-9647) to LOHN (K-9952). Supporting fires by the 413th Infantry were arranged for a night crossing of the INDE River and at 2300 Company K, 414th Infantry, crossed between ALTDORF and INDEN, advancing to F-031521 by 2400. There was no change among other units of the 413th and 414th Infantry Regiments.

At 1145 the 2nd Battalion, 415th Infantry closed in WEISWEILER, having moved from [illegible] (K-9749), and under the cover of darkness advanced northeast to the vicinity of [illegible] (F-0149) where Companies E and G crossed the INDE River. By 2340 Companies E and G had advanced to F-031499 and F-035507, respectively. Company G had been engaged in hand to hand combat in factories in the vicinity of F-029508, taking a number of prisoners. The 1st Battalion, assembled in the vicinity of WEISWEILER, was prepared to move forward after the attack of the 2nd Battalion. The 3rd Battalion, which had reconnoitered for river crossings during the day and made contact with the 413th Infantry, establish the right flank from WEISWEILER to the north of INDEN, sent its first elements (Company I) across the INDE River in the vicinity of F-030515 at 2400 hours.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 159 missions as follows: 26 preparation, 4 personnel,

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1 mortar and machine gun, 15 close support, 44 counterbattery, 56 interdiction and harassing, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3164.

4th Division: Fired 243 missions as follows: 26 personnel, 5 mortar and machine gun, 57 close support, 21 counterbattery, 122 interdiction and harassing, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 7256.

104th Division: Fired 261 missions as follows: 72 preparation, 29 personnel, 26 mortar and machine gun, 5 counterbattery, 5 tank, 104 interdiction and harassing, 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6872.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 46 missions as follows: 13 counterbattery, 6 close support, and 27 interdiction and harassing. Rounds expended: 1781.

Corps: Fired 194 missions as follows: 70 preparation, 9 personnel, 9 close support, 51 counterbattery, 37 interdiction and harassing, and 18 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3809.

The preparation missions fired by the 104th Div Arty and the majority of those fired by Corps Arty were fired between 2200 and 2400 hours in support of the night attack of the 104th Division. In the attack on LUCHERBERG, the 104th Div Arty utilized time fire very effectively to keep the enemy under cover and prevent a counter-attack. The fire was maintained over the eastern part of town while our forces were approaching the western edge.

Antiaircraft: The 438th AAA AW Bn engaged 6 enemy craft between 1216 and 1715, destroying one plane. One "Cat II" was claimed by the 474th AAA AW Bn out of four enemy planes engaged between 1210 and 1735 hours. The 116th AAA Gun Bn fired a mission on enemy artillery positions, expending 215 rounds of 90mm HE unobserved fire.

Tank Destroyers: The 628th TD Bn expended 99 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 692nd TD Bn fired 21 harassing missions, expending 417 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire. In addition to firing 720 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on harassing missions the 803rd TD Bn fired 3 rounds of 3" HE direct fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 204.

3 DECEMBER 1944

Again attacking under the cover of darkness elements of the VII Corps seized LUCHERBERG (F-0450), LUCHEM (F-0349), and cleared the eastern portion of INDEN (F-0252) of the enemy. On the right flank no progress was made as the enemy counter-attacked strongly and prevented any advance. Relief of the 4th Infantry Division was begun by the 83rd Infantry Division with the 330th Infantry moving into the line and taking over positions of the 22nd Infantry. Positions in the center of the Corps zone were held and consolidated.

During the afternoon enemy aircraft were over the Corps area in considerable strength for the first time in two months. Between 1330 and 1445 hours, an estimated 60 ME-109's and FW-190's dropped some bombs and strafed at from tree top level to 13,000 feet altitude. No damage to antiaircraft defended areas was reported, and all enemy planes were engaged by our Antiaircraft Artillery units with heavy losses to the enemy. Corps (109th AAA Group) and

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Division Antiaircraft definitely destroyed 25 German planes and probably destroyed 10 others. This was the most successful period our AA enjoyed since the afternoon of 5 October when 39 enemy planes were downed in VII Corps area.

Other operations of the enemy, while successful in preventing any advance of our troops on the right flank where he continued to employ his active defense tactics, were less successful on the left flank of VII Corps. Early in the period the enemy lost the east bank of the river at [redacted]. At the same time elements of the 3rd Parachute Division were forced back in the village of LUCHERBERG where they fought from house to house throughout the day. By nightfall the enemy had yielded the entire town. Coupled with the loss of LUCHERBERG other elements of the 8th Parachute Regiment (3rd Parachute Division) and the 3rd Parachute AT Battalion (who fought only with bazookas) yielded LUCHEM and the surrounding area. In being forced to give up these three areas the enemy offered only moderate resistance and did not counter-attack to regain any of his losses.

In the GEY (F-0739) area the enemy was not as passive as in the northern sector. Starting at 0645 hours, approximately two platoons of foot troops, including elements of the 8th Parachute Regiment, attacked our forces in the area of F-0542, a mile and a half south of [redacted] (F-0145). Again at 0900 two small attacks were launched, the first west of GEY against our forces at F-067-398 and F-067404, and the second west of STRASS (F-0739) against our forces at F-070388. This latter attack was made by the 2nd Battalion, 981st Regiment, 272nd Infantry Division, a new arrival on VII Corps front from the south. All attacks were made without artillery preparation, without support from armor and without gaining ground.

Two squadrons of fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command each supported the 104th and 1st Infantry Divisions and one squadron the 4th Infantry Division. Results were reported good. Supporting air and our artillery broke up a concentration of 7 enemy tanks which were preparing to support the enemy attack west of GEY.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Resumed the attack on the left of the Division zone but made no progress as the enemy counter-attacked sharply. The enemy also maintained heavy pressure against the center and right flank elements during the day, causing a slight loss of ground due to infiltration. The 22nd Infantry was relieved by the 330th Infantry (83rd Division) at 1900.

1st Infantry Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Positions were consolidated after elements of the 16th Infantry had cleared LUCHEM.

104th Infantry Division: Launched another successful night operation which resulted in [redacted] being cleared, and LUCHERBERG being captured. Construction of bridges over the [redacted] River at the former place were begun.

3rd Armored Division: Continued maintenance and training in assembly areas.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Andersen): Remained in assembly areas.

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4th Infantry Division

On the right flank the 22nd Infantry remained in position until relieved by the 330th Infantry. The 1st Battalion repulsed a counter-attack at 0930. Relief of the 22nd Infantry was delayed by heavy enemy artillery fire. The 330th Infantry which had assembled in the vicinity of E-9942, started relieving elements of the 22nd Infantry at 1100. By 1900 the relief was completed with the 22nd Infantry moving to an assembly area in the vicinity of F-001399. By 2400 nearly all elements had closed in that location.

The 12th Infantry remained in defensive positions throughout the day. Enemy infiltrated around the west flank of Company B and into the outpost of Company G at 0850. The latter Company was forced back to F-061398. A platoon from Company L moved to assist Company G and the ground regained, but at 1700 were pushed back to F-060398. Final positions of the 12th Infantry were as follows: 2nd Battalion, F-058399 - F-061396; 1st Battalion, F-064400 - F-064404 - F-060404; 3rd Battalion, F-049400 with Company L at F-057404.

Just prior to 0900, the attack time of the 8th Infantry, a heavy artillery concentration was received along the front lines, which was followed by an enemy attack. After repulsing this attack, the Regiment was ordered to consolidate positions on the favorable terrain they were occupying and mop up the infiltration between the right flank and the Regimental boundary. The 1st Battalion held the same positions as the previous day with Company K rejoining the 3rd Battalion which moved into the line on the left flank and relieved the 2nd Battalion. The 2nd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of F-044424. Other units continued to carry out the same missions as the previous period.

1st Infantry Division

At 0600 the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, attacked northeast with the mission to seize and hold LUCHEM (F-0349). The attack progressed against normal enemy infantry fire with Company A on the right and Company B on the left and by 0740 these two companies had knocked out an enemy road block at F-037488. At 0812 hours LUCHEM was entered and the Battalion supported by four medium tanks and four tank destroyers preceded to clear the town of enemy during the day. Positions were held in the vicinity of the town. Patrols crossed the AUTOBAHN Highway and reported that the Germans were using a trench system of fight. Several bunkers were cleared north of the town and defensive positions organized. Company I further consolidated its positions in FREMERSBERG (F-0149). Other units remained in positions occupied at the close of the previous period.

Front line positions held by the 26th Infantry on the right flank of the Division were consolidated by the 1st Battalion and Company G, which also established contact with the 18th Infantry on the left. The 3rd Battalion remained regrouped to the rear of the 1st Battalion in the woods at the top of the ridge, prepared to attack MERODE (F-0145). Remnants of the 2nd Battalion were assembled in the vicinity of F-044423.

The 18th Infantry continued to consolidate and improve positions. Patrols were active to maintain enemy contact. At 1830 the 1st Battalion moved to clean out and occupy F-041469 and by 2115 this had been accomplished. Company A moved in the line on the right flank at F-041463 and all other positions were held without change.

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104th Infantry Division

Shortly after 0001 hours, the 2nd Battalion, 415th Infantry, which had crossed the INDE River at 2300, 2 November, had reached limited objectives at LUTZBEN (F-0350) and GOLDSTEIN GRUBE (F-0350). The entry was surprised by the night attack and was temporarily disorganized. Company G engaged the enemy in hand to hand fighting in the vicinity of F-031500 and made liberal use of the bayonet and grenades to subdue the foe. Close combat fighting continued until dawn in both places and the 2nd Battalion finally consolidated positions at F-034-507 - F-034499.

At 0001 the 3rd Battalion, 415th Infantry, took advantage of the diversion offered by the 2nd Battalion, and Company I moved across the INDE, north of the 2nd Battalion, and attacked toward LUCHERBERG (F-0450). Opposition was stubborn with heavy automatic weapons fire being used by the enemy. Despite the enemy's heavy fire, the Company continued forward to the edge of the town where they were able to gain a few buildings. During the day the two platoons of Company I held out against vastly superior numbers of enemy parachute troops.

Meanwhile Company L, early in the morning, attempted under the cover of darkness to move from the north and relieve Company I. This attempt failed, and the Company moved west across the INDE River, turned east across the stream again through waist deep water and struck due east toward LUCHERBERG. The slag pile was scaled and by 1630, the 3rd Platoon made contact with Company I. By 1715 LUCHERBERG was in our hands. Company K held LANGENDORF (F-0250) with other elements of the Battalion at F-035502.

A diversionary attack was launched to support the 415th Infantry by the 414th and 413th Infantry Regiments. By 0015 Companies L and K, 414th Infantry, had crossed the INDE. All supporting weapons were used by the other two Battalions, 414th Infantry and the entire 413th Infantry in making the demonstration. The 3rd Battalion of the former Regiment had a 300 yard bridgehead across the stream by 0700, when the enemy launched a mild counter-attack which was repulsed without loss of ground. To assist the 415th Infantry, the 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, commenced to enlarge its bridgehead at 1245 and at the close of the period it firmly held a bridgehead as far east as the railroad 700 yards east of INDEN. The 1st and 3rd Battalions held positions at K-975490 and K-986477. Units of the 413th Infantry remained in previous locations with the 1st and 3rd Battalions in INDEN and the 2nd Battalion at DURWISS (K-9749).

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 142 missions as follows: 34 personnel, 14 preparation, 9 mortar and machine gun, 3 close support, 16 counterbattery, 56 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2902.

4th Division: Fired 168 missions as follows: 11 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 32 close support, 18 counterbattery, 1 tank 56 interdiction and harassing, and 21 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3404.

104th Division: Fired 185 missions as follows: 36 personnel, 14 mortar and machine gun, 5 close support, 7 counterbattery, 6 tank, 100 interdiction and harassing, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4918.

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Corps: Fired 104 missions as follows: 15 personnel, 2 close support, 35 counterbattery, 43 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4111.

3rd and 5th Armored Division were silent during the period.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600. 116th AAA Gun Bn fired unobserved missions expending 16 rounds of 90mm HE on enemy concentrations and crossroads in the vicinity of PIER (F-0552) in support of VII Corps Arty.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 357.

4 DECEMBER 1944

For the first time since 15 November there was no offensive activity among units of VII Corps. All front line positions were held and patrol contact maintained with the enemy while regrouping within Corps and division units took place.

Throughout the period the enemy limited his actions mostly to artillery and morter fire, scattered over the Corps front. Between 1100 and 1300 a heavy barrage was fired into INDE (F-0252). The barrage ceased immediately upon the appearence of our planes. Prisoners taken in the LUCHERBERG (F-0450) area revealed the presence of units of the 246th Infantry Division. The 2nd Battalion, 404th Regiment of this Division was reported entrenched in the vicinity, having spent the night of 3/4 December in PIER (F-0552).

What the enemy intended to be a counter-attack was frustated at its inception when two companies, observed marching toward LUCHET (F-0349) from the east, were blanketed by our artillery. In the area north and east of GEY (F-0739) the enemy was content to remain inactive as long as our forces did not push him. A smoke screen placed on our troops in the vicinity of F-0638), southwest of STRASS (F-0739), probably shielded some activity to the east. However, no indication of the nature of this activity had been ascertained at the close of the period.

Intermittent showers with broken clouds and an overcast sky during most of the day made visibility too poor to permit air support for the Corps by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command.

4th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and 330th Infantry, 83rd Division, attached): Regimental Combat Team 22 moved by motor to VIII Corps sector, beginning at 0945. Elements of the 12th Infantry and 8th Infantry mopped up the wooded area between the two Regiments and returned to their former positions, leaving the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron to hold and patrol the sector cleared.

1st Infantry Division (4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Regrouped and prepared for relief. The 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, 3rd Armored Division was attached.

104th Infantry Division: Two bridges over the INDE River, one at INDE (F-0252) and the other at LUDERSDORF (F-0250), were constructed during the day, enabling supporting weapons to be brought up to units east of the stream. Units regrouped and positions were consolidated.

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4 December [illegible]

3rd Armored Division (less 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, of Combat Command Boudinot): Continued maintenance and training of personnel in assembly areas.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson): [illegible] in assembly areas.

4th Infantry Division

The 730th Infantry on the right flank improved and readjusted positions formerly occupied by the 22nd Infantry. Sporadic artillery fire was received by front line elements throughout the period, but no one unless with the [illegible] occurred and no substantial changes in disposition resulted.

During the morning the 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, moved to the northeast to clean out the wooded area between the [illegible] and the Regimental north (1st) boundary in conjunction with elements of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 8th Infantry, which worked toward the south from their positions on the Division left flank. The 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, then returned to an assembly position in the rear of the front lines in the vicinity of [illegible], except for Company L which held a front line position on the left flank of the Regiment at P-062406. The 1st and 2nd Battalions adjusted positions on their [illegible] during the period, and between 1600 and 1800 Company [illegible] was subjected to an extremely intense artillery barrage causing heavy casualties. Company B was withdrawn 200 yards and the necessary adjustments in the line made by Companies A and C. The 2nd Battalion held positions from P-061354 to P-[illegible], and the 1st Battalion from P-061401 to P-060402 to P-062404.

A few prisoners and some enemy equipment were captured by elements of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 8th Infantry, as they pushed south to clean out a pocket of enemy in conjunction with the 12th Infantry to the south. Units then returned to positions formerly held, and the area cleared was outposted by the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron.

1st Infantry Division

Positions in the vicinity of [illegible] (P-0247), [illegible] (P-0446) and southwest of [illegible] (P-0445) were held by the 1st Infantry Division and active patrolling maintained. All positions were held by the 26th and 16th Infantry Regiments. The latter unit conducted reconnaissance in preparation for relief of the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry. When the 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, 3rd Armored Division, was attached to the 16th Infantry at 1800, the relief was effected with the Armored Battalion [illegible] over positions of the 16th Infantry with Company [illegible] at P-[illegible], Company [illegible] at P-026480, and Company [illegible] at [illegible] (P-0247). The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry assembled in the vicinity of [illegible]; the 2nd Battalion remained in the vicinity of P-[illegible], and the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of P-[illegible]. The 4th Cavalry Squadron held its same positions.

104th Infantry Division

The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 415th Infantry [illegible] (P-0450) and vicinity. Several small enemy groups resisted fiercely before all resistance was completely crushed at 1600, and a little later [illegible]

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destroyer units were brought up, having crossed the INDE River. These two units remained in the captured town with the 1st Battalion at WEISWEILER (F-0048) and Company K in LAMERSDORF (F-0250).

By 0300 the 329th Engineer Combat Battalion had completed a 40 ton bridge across the INDE River at INDEN (F-0252) and by early afternoon had constructed another of the same capacity across the stream at LAMERSDORF, permitting supporting weapons to move up to units east of the River. The 1st Battalion, 413th Infantry, moved from defensive positions in PUTZLOCH (K-9951) to the vicinity of MEHLRATH (K-9449), the 3rd Battalion moved to DURWISS (K-9749), while the 2nd Battalion remained in that town. Companies A and B, 414th Infantry, closed in INDEN at 2230 hours with other elements of the 1st Battalion moving from LOHN (K-9952) to PUTZLOCH. The 2nd Battalion moved from the vicinity of SCHWEILER (K-9447) to FRENZ (F-0149) and then moved back to WEISWEILER. The 3rd Battalion worked to expand the bridgehead east of INDEN.

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 94 missions as follows: 3 personnel, 8 mortar and machine gun, 9 close support, 14 counterbattery, 32 interdiction and harassing, and 24 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2586.

4th Division: Fired 210 missions as follows: 2 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 74 close support, 10 counterbattery, 101 interdiction and harassing, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5132.

104th Division: Fired 163 missions as follows: 53 personnel, 21 mortar and machine gun, 3 close support, 7 counterbattery, 6 tank, 66 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6111.

Corps: Fired 149 missions as follows: 20 personnel, 1 close support, 27 counterbattery, 1 tank, 80 interdiction and harassing, and 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4256.

3rd and 5th Armored Divisions did not fire during the period.

Antiaircraft: Covered in previous day under Corps. (There was no action between 031445 and 010600 December.)

Tank Destroyers: 629th TD Bn fired 86 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 634th TD Bn fired 13 rounds of 3" "star-shell" indirect fire, aiding infantry in repelling enemy counter-attack. A number of harassing missions were fired by the 602nd TD Bn which expended 556 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire. Harassing missions were also fired by the 803rd TD Bn with an expenditure of 173 rounds of 3" HE.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 305.

5 DECEMBER 1944

Regrouping of units within VII Corps area continued with front line positions being held and patrol contact maintained with the enemy. On order of First U. S. Army the 9th Infantry Division started relief of the 1st Infantry Division with the 39th Regimental Comb t Team moving into the line. Units of the 1st Division, less one Regimental Combat Team, which was ordered to relieve

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elements of V Corps in the MONSCHAU (K-9418) - ROTGEN (K-9128) area, were prepared to move to a rest area.

The enemy changed from almost complete inactivity during the preceding period to a much more agressive foe early in the day. At 0550 he made his first thrust at the northern end of the Corps front. Elements of the 689th Regiment, 946th Infantry Division, supported by 10 tanks, attacked our forces in LUCHERBERG (F-0450). Although the attack aimed at the southern end of the town was repulsed, the drive at the eastern outskirts continued until 1030 when the attackers withdrew leaving three disabled tanks behind them.

Almost simultaneously with this attack the southern end of the Corps front flared into action when, at 0645 hours, the 2nd and 3rd Companies, 981st Regiment (272nd Infantry Division) attacked our forces southwest of STRASS (F-0739) with the mission of taking the woods at F-068390, a half mile southwest of [illegible] (F-0739). This attack, which was preceded by artillery and mortar fire, ended at [illegible] without gain. For the remainder of the period the enemy was observed digging in west of STRASS.

During the early part of the afternoon the enemy was observed in a number of small troops movements: one column of infantry marched along the AUTOBAHN between [illegible] (F-0750) and [illegible] (F-0747), while another column marched southwest from [illegible] (F-0752) to LUCHERBERG (F-0450). Both of these groups suffered heavy casualties from our artillery fire. Between 1800 and 1900 hours what was believed originally to be the beginning of a second attack on LUCHERBERG resulted in a forty man combat patrol attempting to fight its way into the eastern portion of the town. This action was frustrated, and the patrol withdrew. Artillery fire was the only enemy activity after this unsuccessful attempt until the close of the period.

Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command supported the Corps during the day with seven squadrons working for the 104th Division, four squadrons working for the 1st Division, and one squadron working for the 4th Division. Results were good to excellent. Medium bombers attacked [illegible] (F-1152), [illegible] (F-1053), and [illegible] (F-1053). Fighter-bombers attacked [illegible] and [illegible] (F-0554). Due to bad weather on some missions close support could not be rendered, and bombs were dropped on the following places: marshalling yards at [illegible] (F-2353), factories southwest of [illegible] at F-3350, [illegible] (F-[illegible]), and [illegible] (F-3229) by radar control.

4th Infantry Division (less 22nd Regimental Combat Team, with 330th Regimental Combat Team, [illegible] Division, and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Repulsed counter-attack early in morning, and repelled enemy patrols during the afternoon on the right flank. Positions were consolidated, and a small enemy pocket in the vicinity of F-060414 cleared.

1st Infantry Division (less 16th Regimental Combat Team, with 32th Regimental Combat Team, [illegible] Division, 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and [illegible] Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, attached): Relief of the Division continued with 32th Regimental Combat Team moving from V Corps area, and the 16th Regimental Combat Team began the move to V Corps area during the morning. After the 32th [illegible] and relieved elements of the 26th Infantry in the line, the 26th Infantry began movement to a rest area at [illegible] (F-6735), Bel-

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5 December S E C R E T

104th Infantry Division: Repulsed a strong enemy counter-attack against [illegible] early in the morning, and a second enemy attack later in the period without the loss of ground. Positions were consolidated with several units remaining in assembly areas.

3rd Armored Division (less 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment): Continued maintenance and training in assembly areas.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson): Remained in assembly areas.

4th Infantry Division

Front line positions were maintained and improved by the [illegible] Infantry throughout the period. A counter-attack by the enemy shortly after first light, following a heavy mortar and artillery preparation on our front lines, was repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy. At 1545 the enemy attempted to turn the left (north) flank of Company B but was repulsed. Troop disposition remained unchanged.

The 12th Infantry adjusted front line positions along the main line of resistance and continued preparations for relief of the Regiment by the 83rd Division. Company I advanced to the north [illegible] and cleared out a pocket of enemy resistance in the vicinity of [illegible], and then joined the 3rd Battalion, less Company L, in assembly positions in the vicinity of [illegible].

Troop dispositions also remained unchanged on the left flank where the [illegible] Infantry consolidated its front lines and maintained contact with the [illegible] Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron on the Regimental and Division left (north) boundary, and the [illegible] Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron on the right.

1st Infantry Division

After the [illegible] Regimental Combat Team arrived in the Division zone from [illegible] Corps area, they moved into the line taking over all front line positions formerly held by the 26th Infantry with the 1st and 3rd Battalions occupying positions as follows: [illegible]. The 2nd Battalion, [illegible] Infantry, relieved the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, in place at [illegible], and then relieved [illegible] in the vicinity of [illegible]. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 26th Infantry, remained in place as did units of the 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment. The 26th Infantry started movement to a rest area in the vicinity of [illegible] ([illegible]).

[illegible] Infantry Division

Before light the enemy attacked [illegible] ([illegible]), with tank-supported infantry, and in the action that followed four of his tanks ([illegible]) were destroyed, and he withdrew, having also suffered heavy casualties in personnel. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, [illegible] Infantry, then consolidated positions in the town. There was no change in the disposition of units of this Regiment. Units of the [illegible] and [illegible] Infantry Regiments also continued to occupy the same positions as at the close of the previous period with the exception of [illegible] weapons of the former which were moved east of [illegible] River late in the period under the cover of an artillery barrage.

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T H I S P A G E I S U N C L A S S I F I E D

Artillery

1st Division: Fired 103 missions as follows: [illegible], 3 close support, 15 counterbattery, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, [illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1170.

4th Division: Fired 107 missions as follows: [illegible] machine gun, 35 close support, [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible].

104th Division: Fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] support, 10 counterbattery, [illegible] tank, 15 interdiction and harassing, [illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1082.

Corps: Fired 115 missions as follows: [illegible] personnel, [illegible] counterbattery, 74 interdiction and harassing, and 1[illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible].

3rd and 5th Armored [illegible].

Antiaircraft: [illegible] aircraft [illegible] at 1600 hours and destroyed. [illegible]

Tank Destroyers: The [illegible]th TD Bn [illegible] by firing 75 rounds of [illegible] indirect fire. [illegible] knocked out by the [illegible] TD Bn with an expenditure of [illegible] rounds of 3" [illegible] direct fire, and [illegible] rounds of 3" in indirect fire and [illegible] interdiction missions. The [illegible] TD Bn expended [illegible] rounds of 3" [illegible] fire on harassing missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: [illegible].

5 DECEMBER 1944

On the left [illegible] a limited objective gain was made [illegible] positions were improved and [illegible] along the [illegible] weather prevented close support [illegible] fighter-bombers flew armed reconnaissance [illegible] 60th Regimental Combat Team, 9th Infantry Division, [illegible] Combat Team, 83rd Infantry Division, [illegible].

The enemy lapsed into a period of [illegible] er-attacks on 5 December. [illegible] artillery [illegible] area along the Corps zone was the limit of his activity until [illegible]. At that time our forces enlarged the [illegible] (F-[illegible]) and were met by scattered pockets of resistance [illegible] the [illegible] Infantry Division. In this action [illegible] prisoners, and [illegible] At the completion of the [illegible] positions, and his artillery fire continued [illegible] period.

4th Infantry Division [illegible] [illegible] Regimental Combat Team, [illegible] ed; consolidated and [illegible] positions. [illegible]

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GRESSENICH (K-9842) - SCHEVENHUTTE (F-0042) area.

1st Infantry Division (less 16th Regimental Combat Team, with 39th and 60th Regimental Combat Teams, and 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, reinforced, attached): Maintained the same front line positions as the previous period. The 60th Infantry moved from V Corps area and closed in the Division zone by early afternoon. All of the 26th Infantry was in a rest area in the vicinity of AUBEL, (K-6735) Belgium.

104th Infantry Division: 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, attacked at 1500 to establish a strong point in the vicinity of F-042521 and gains were made against scattered resistance with about 100 enemy being captured. Other units continued to hold the same front line positions.

3rd Armored Division (less 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment): Continued maintenance and training in assembly areas.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson): Remained in assembly areas.

4th Infantry Division

Front line positions were maintained and consolidated without change in the disposition of troops by the 8th Infantry on the left flank. In the center of the Division the 12th Infantry continued to hold its positions along the MLR and prepared for its relief by the 83rd Division. The 330th Infantry readjusted positions along the MLR with Company G relieving Company E at 1900 and the 3rd Battalion assembled in reserve to the rear of the front line 1st and 2nd Battalions. All units maintained enemy contact by active patrolling.

1st Infantry Division

Elements of the 9th Infantry Division in the 1st Infantry Division area were under the operational control of the latter. There was no change in the front lines held by the 39th Infantry nor among units of the 18th Infantry to the north, except the 1st Battalion which moved from an assembly area in the vicinity of HAMICH (F-0043) to HOMBURG (K-7337). The 2nd and 3rd Battalions remained in previous positions in the vicinity of [illegible] (F-0347) and [illegible] (F-0349), respectively, and maintained contact between these two villages and with the 39th Infantry to the south. 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron elements held road blocks and strong points on the right flank and maintained contact between the 1st and 4th Divisions. The 26th Infantry remained in a rest area in the vicinity of AUBEL (K-6735).

104th Infantry Division

The 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, attacked at 1500 to establish a strong point in the vicinity of F-042521, and moved slowly, [illegible] up as it advanced. Approximately 400 yards were gained, and over a hundred prisoners captured, Company [illegible] occupied houses vacated by the 3rd Battalion and Company A remained west of the [illegible] River to guard the Regimental right flank. There was no change among other units.

Artillery

1st Division: [illegible] preparation, 1[illegible] personnel, [illegible] mortar and machine gun,

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15 close support, 10 counterbattery, 2 tank, 34 interdiction and harassing, [illegible] miscellaneous, a total of 100 missions with an expenditure of 2444 rounds.

14th Division: Fired 151 missions as follows: 15 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 26 close support, 5 counterbattery, 99 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous missions. Rounds expended: 3715.

104th Division: Fired 117 missions as follows: 12 preparation, 12 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 2 close support, 3 counterbattery, 4 tank, 29 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3744.

Corps: Fired 142 missions as follows: 25 preparation, 10 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 7 close support, 25 counterbattery, 5 tank, 43 interdiction and harassing, and 25 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3247.

3rd and 5th Armored Divisions did not fire during the period.

Nine preparation missions fired by Corps Arty were in support of the attack of the 104th Infantry Division, 14 of which were on enemy batteries. On [illegible] the 155 mm (" ") fired 16 rounds of precision fire from a single gun position into stone buildings west of [illegible]. The fire was reported by the observer as very effective, and later when the infantry moved in they reported that many of the enemy infantry appeared to be suffering from shock.

Antiaircraft: Two ME-109's were engaged by the 114th AAA Gun Battalion at 1410 with no "claims" made. The 174th AAA Gun Battalion engaged four of the same type enemy craft at 1515 hours and also claimed one "Cat Z". The 170th AAA GW Bn engaged 5 ME-109's at 1510 hours and claimed 1 destroyed and [illegible] Additional claims by the 190th AAA Gp were 1 enemy plane destroyed, and two probably destroyed.

Tank Destroyers: 75 rounds of 90-mm [illegible] were expended on [illegible] missions, and 6 PzKw VI tanks, and an AT gun were knocked out with [illegible]. The 703rd TD Bn fired 770 rounds of 3" HE on [illegible] missions and 10 rounds "Star Shell".

Prisoners of war [illegible] by the Corps: [illegible]. (*PWs captured by 104th Div, transferred 24 hours later at PW enclosure)

[illegible] the 83rd Division [illegible] relief of the 14th Division on the [illegible] at 1400 [illegible], when the latter passed to control of VIII Corps. Relief of the 1st [illegible] by the 83rd Division was also completed and the latter assumed control [illegible] quarter of the [illegible]. Positions were improved in the vicinity of [illegible] (-0455) and defended along the rest of the Corps [illegible].

[illegible] the remainder of the reporting period the enemy remained inactive along the [illegible] are in the vicinity of LINDENDAL (8-0455), [illegible] (-0755), established his main [illegible] and there prevented them from advancing

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further than P-042521 and P-037530, east and northeast of [illegible]. Some enemy vehicular traffic and troop movement was also reported. In contrast to the stubborn resistence encountered from elements of the 276th Infantry Division a few days previous in the fight for [illegible], only moderate resistence was offered to the advance of our troops to P-044523, a half mile east of the town.

83rd Infantry Division (less 329th Regimental Combat Team, with 8th Regimental Combat Team, and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): The 331st Infantry moved into the line relieving elements of the 12th Infantry. The 330th Infantry on the right flank and the 8th Infantry on the left flank held defensive positions. 4th Division, less 8th Infantry, passed to VIII Corps control.

9th Infantry Division (4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): The 60th Infantry relieved the 18th Infantry in the center of the Division zone and the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, moved into the line on the north (left) flank. The 39th Infantry continued to hold defensive positions on the right.

104th Infantry Division: 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, established a strong point in the vicinity of P-043521. Other units consolidated positions with the 413th Infantry remaining in an assembly area.

1st Infantry Division (less 16th Regimental Combat Team): After being relieved by elements of the 9th Division, the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 18th Infantry, moved to a rest area in the vicinity of K-7038, and K-7237, respectively. The 1st Battalion assembled in the vicinity of P-008432 while the 26th Regimental Combat Team remained in rest area in the vicinity of AUBEL (K-6735).

3rd Armored Division: 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, reverted to Division control at 2400. Other units remained in assembly areas and continued training.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson): Remained in assembly areas and continued training.

83rd Infantry Division

Regimental Combat Team 331 relieved the 12th Infantry, 4th Division, in the center of the zone of action, and at 1600 hours the 83rd Division assumed responsibility for the zone. The 4th Division, less the 8th Infantry, prepared to move to VIII Corps sector. There was no change in the front lines held by the 330th Infantry on the right flank or the 8th Infantry on the left flank. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued to plug the gap between the 8th Infantry and center elements (331st Infantry) holding a number of strong points and maintained contact between units. The 329th Infantry remained in [illegible] and continued to patrol the [illegible] - SAUER Rivers.

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Division completed relief of the 1st Division at 2400 hours and assumed control of the zone at that time. The 39th Infantry continued to hold defensive positions on the right while elements of the 60th Infantry and 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, relieved the 18th Infantry. The 3rd Battalion, 60th

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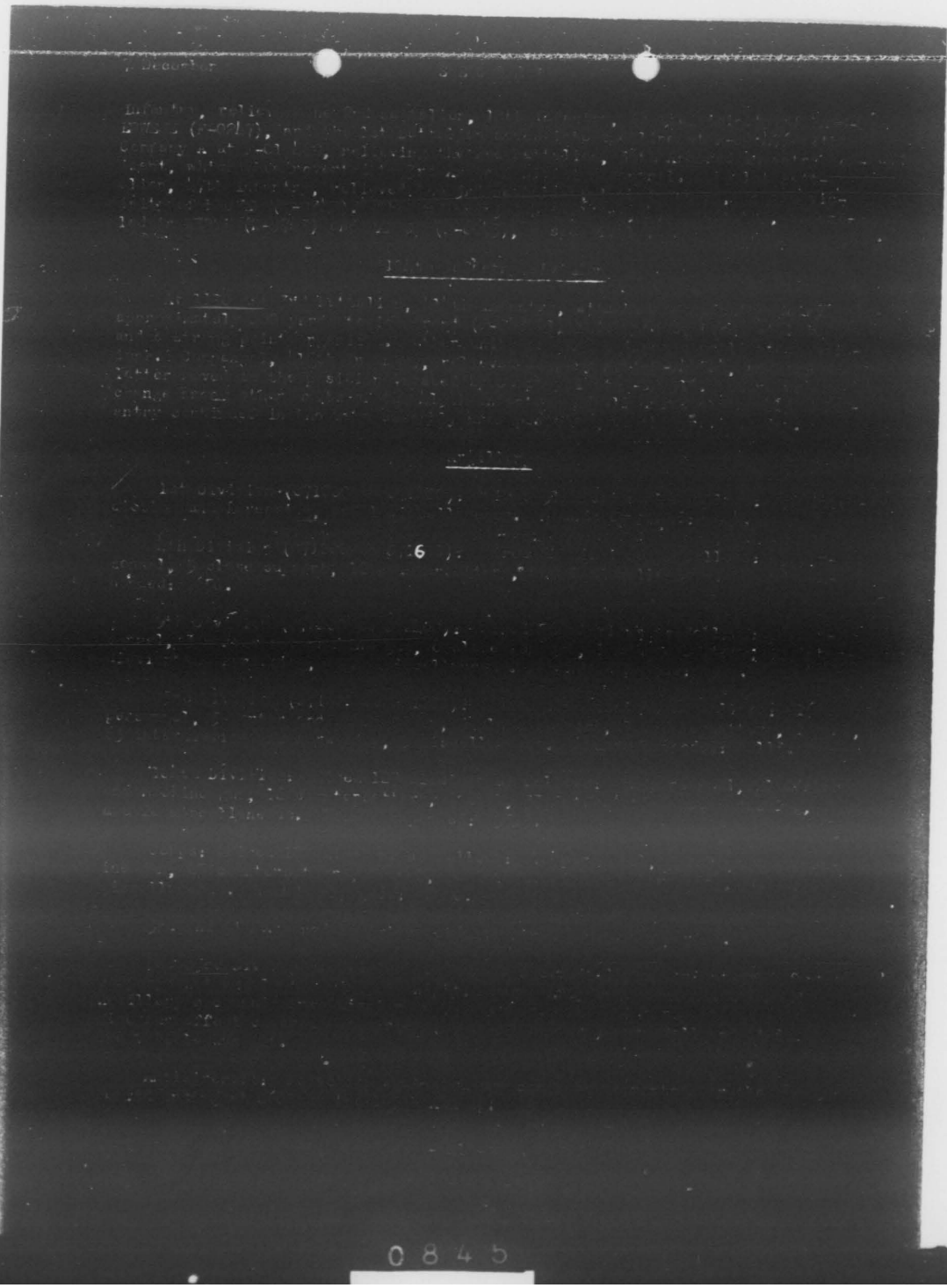

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7 December [illegible]

Tank Destroyers: 628th TD Bn fired 100 rounds of [illegible] HE indirect fire on harassing missions, and the 692nd TD Bn fired 200 rounds of 3" HE on 20 harassing missions and 20 rounds of 3" "Star Shell".

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 164.

8 DECEMBER 1944

All front line divisions of VII Corps ([illegible]3rd, [illegible]th, and 104th Divisions) consolidated and defended positions with very little change in the lines as enemy contact was maintained by active patrolling. The two armored divisions and the 1st Division occupied assembly areas.

Activity on the part of the enemy was equally quiet. Again his chief offensive act was artillery fire. With the exception of a few heavy concentrations on the right flank of the Corps zone, his fire was light and interdictory. Only small arms fire was encountered by our patrols that [illegible] of the [illegible] ([illegible]) - [illegible] ([illegible]) railroad and our seizure of [illegible] 375 ([illegible]) was met with moderate resistance. Activity on a small scale was observed west of [illegible] ([illegible]) with small units thought to have been withdrawing to that place and [illegible] ([illegible]).

Four groups of fighter-bombers of the [illegible] Tactical Air Command furnished close support for the 104th Infantry Division [illegible] the day. [illegible] other ground cut railroads and bridges between the front lines of the Corps and the [illegible] River.

[illegible]3rd Infantry Division ([illegible] Regimental Combat Team, with [illegible] Regimental Combat Team and [illegible] Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Adjusted lines and defended positions. Right flank elements attacked [illegible] HILL 375 ([illegible]).

[illegible]th Infantry Division ([illegible]): [illegible] front line positions and maintained contact with the enemy by patrolling.

104th Infantry Division: [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

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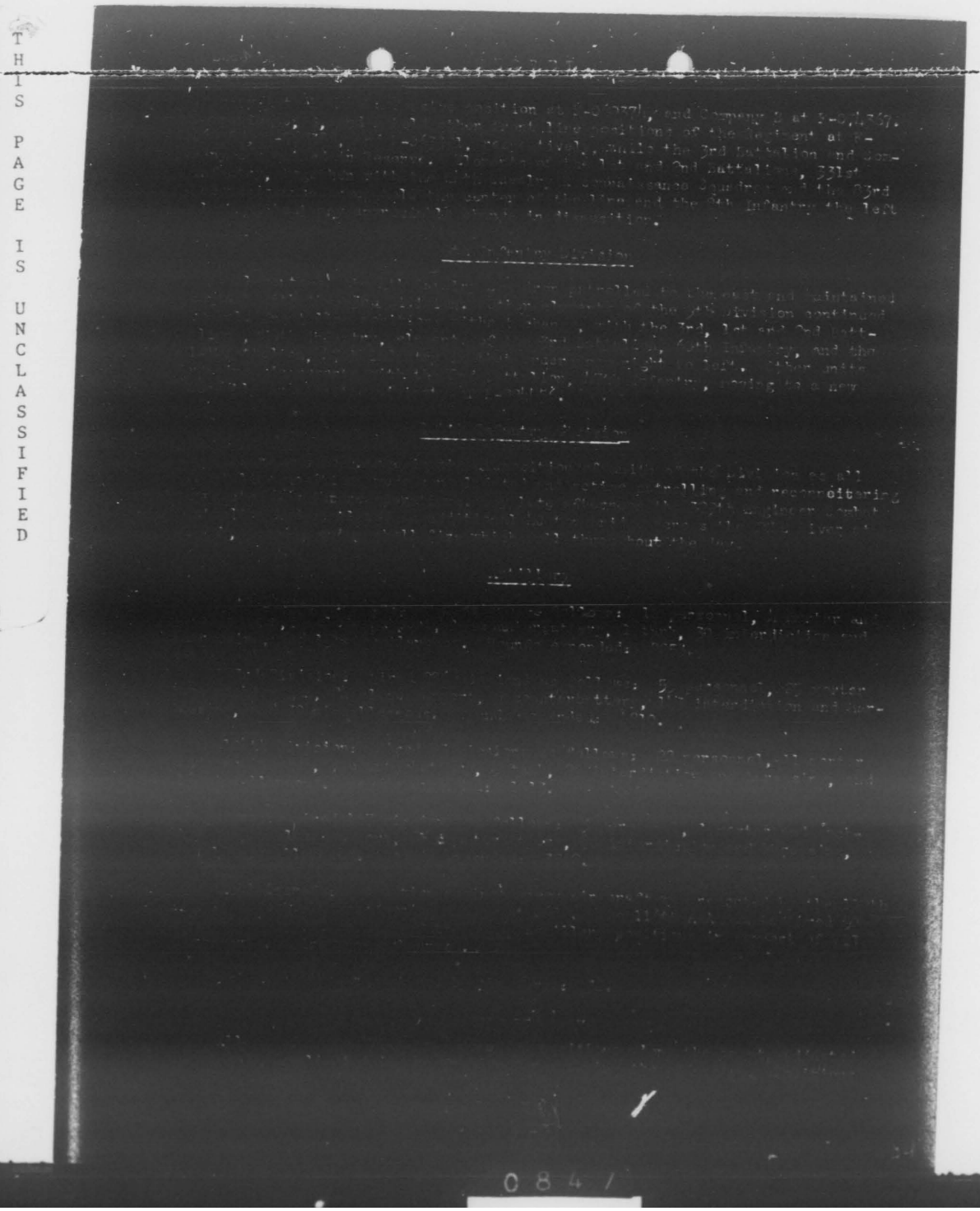

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were adjusted by both the 83rd and 9th Divisions with slight advances by the right flank and center elements of these Divisions respectively. An OPLR was established for the 415th Infantry of the 104th Division on the left of the Corps. There was very little enemy resistance encountered.

Enemy units facing VII Corps remained inactive throughout the period except for the usual artillery fire and a brief sortie by four tanks. These armored units moved west from [illegible] (P-0552), but when engaged by our artillery in the vicinity of P-044501 turned back without firing a shot. During this action the enemy smoked [illegible] (P-0450) and two hills in the vicinity of [illegible]. Toward the close of the period the enemy did not oppose the eastward advance of our troops to a point three-quarters of a mile east of LUCHER-[illegible].

No fighter-bomber close support of the Corps was possible due to unfavorable weather with fairly heavy snow falling throughout most of the day. During the night there was a light freeze.

[illegible] Infantry Division (less 309th Regimental Combat Team, with 8th Regimental Combat Team and [illegible] Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Adjusted lines and defended positions, advancing right flank elements slightly against very light enemy resistance.

[illegible] Infantry Division ([illegible] Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Defended [illegible] positions with center elements adjusting lines and advancing [illegible].

104th Infantry Division: [illegible] at dark, Company K, 415th Infantry [illegible], took over positions held [illegible] Infantry at P-0[illegible].

[illegible] Armored Division: [illegible] (Reserve) assembled in three [illegible] in the vicinity of [illegible] (P-0247), closing [illegible] Artillery units moved forward to firing positions. [illegible]

[illegible] Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson): Remained in reserve [illegible]

[illegible] Infantry Division (less [illegible] Regimental Combat Team): Remained in rest [illegible]

[illegible] Infantry Division

[illegible]

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by the elements of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron and the 83rd Reconnaissance Troop. Companies C and F, 8th Infantry, held front lines at F-057424 - F-055429, Company K at F-055430 - F-056433, and Company I in the vicinity of F-053433.

9th Infantry Division

Defensive positions were maintained by all front line units and patrolling and reconnaissance conducted to the east. On the right flank contact was maintained between the 39th Infantry and left flank elements (8th Infantry) of the 83rd Division by the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron. The 39th Infantry held positions from southwest of [illegible]RODE (F-0445) to southwest of [illegible]ERSDORF (F-0446) as follows: 3rd Battalion, F-043445 - F-046447 - F-046453; 1st Battalion, F-044452 - F-045456 - F-043461 - F-038463. The 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry was assembled in [illegible]. The 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, held the line from F-035472 - F-038472 to F-041481, while the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, attached to the 60th Infantry, remained in the vicinity of [illegible] (F-0349).

3rd Armored Division

While Combat Commands Boudinot and Bickey and the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion remained in previous locations, the Division Reserve (Combat Command Howze) moved by route of [illegible] (K-9842), [illegible] (F-0042), and WENAU (F-0144) to an assembly area in the vicinity of [illegible] (F-0247). Artillery units also displaced forward to firing positions.

104th Infantry Division

The 3rd Battalion, 415th Infantry moved to assigned positions in the vicinity of [illegible] (F-0450) by 2100 and Company K moved under the cover of dark to establish an outpost line 400 yards east of the town. Company E, 415th Infantry, guarded the right flank of the Division at F-042497, while to the left (northwest) of the 3rd Battalion, 415th Infantry, the 3rd Battalion of the 414th Infantry held the line in the vicinity of F-035521. Company F, 415th Infantry, was in defensive positions at F-030516, and Companies B and A, 414th Infantry, held the left flank at F-042521, and [illegible] (F-0252), respectively.

Artillery

3rd Armored Division: Fired 108 missions as follows: 97 preparation, 1 personnel, 3 counterbattery, 1 tank, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4913.

9th Division: Fired 153 missions as follows: 9 preparation, 6 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 15 close support, 32 counterbattery, 5 tank, 72 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4545.

83rd Division: Fired 356 missions as follows: 8 preparation, 54 personnel, 26 mortar and machine gun, 49 close support, 4 counterbattery, 2 tank, 165 interdiction and harassing, and 48 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible].

104th Division: Fired 191 missions as follows: 70 preparation, 36 personnel, 26 mortar and machine gun, 13 counterbattery, 2 tank, 34 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [illegible]233.

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Corps: Fired 211 missions as follows: 60 preparation, 4 personnel, 2 close support, 58 counterbattery, 2 tank, 79 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3169.

The 5th Armored Division Artillery reinforced the fires of the 83rd Division Artillery with one Armored Field Artillery Battalion. (Note: All Arty reports cover the period of 1200 to 1200. The above is for 091200 to 101200, and covers the preparation fires for the Corps attack of 10 December.)

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged a single enemy aircraft at 1919 and 1924. The enemy plane attempted to enter the VII Corps area from the east, but upon being engaged in the vicinity of F-0443, turned and departed. A few minutes later the same enemy plane again attempted to enter the area but upon being reengaged in the vicinity of F-0444 was again driven off. Btry B, 116th AAA Gun Bn fired 3 FA missions in support of VII Corps Arty, expending a total of 157 rounds. One mission consisted of pouring 50 rounds of 90mm HE in 30 seconds on an enemy battery position which had been counterbatteried by FA a few minutes before. Observers reported that this fire produced excellent results, catching enemy personnel as they left cover taken for protection against Corps Arty.

One enemy aircraft was destroyed by the 453rd AAA AW Bn with the 83rd Infantry Division.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 9.

10 DECEMBER 1944

The VII Corps attacked at 0745 hours to seize the west bank of the RUR River with the 83rd, 9th, 3rd Armored, and 104th Divisions in that order from right to left making a coordinated effort. Despite the cold and generally unfavorable weather conditions numerous initial objectives were secured. Right flank elements captured STRASS (F-0739), cleared SCHAFBUSCH (F-0738) and entered GEY (F-0739) where fighting continued at the close of the period. In the center of the zone of action elements of the 3rd Armored and 9th Infantry Divisions advanced through the mud and minefields to capture D'HORN (F-0546), OBERGELTCH (F-0547) and ZUCHZ (F-0748). Left flank units made initial gains that carried them into PIER (F-0552), but were forced back to the western edge of the town by intense enemy fire. German armored units defending SCHOPHOVEN (F-0553) employed direct fire to hold our advance.

Throughout the day the enemy met the advance of the VII Corps with varying degrees of resistance. Along the northern flank of the Corps zone, elements of the 246th Infantry Division yielded ground easily until our forces reached the western outskirts of PIER and the southwestern approaches to SCHOPHOVEN. At these two points the enemy stood and resisted strongly with direct fire weapons, and by the end of the period had prevented our occupation of either town.

Further south the resistance offered by elements of the 3rd Parachute Division was less severe. OBERGELTCH, D'HORN, and ZUCHZ were successively given up after moderate fire fights, although the garrison at GELTCH (F-0547)

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stubbornly withstood our attacks and efforts to evacuate it. By the close of the period the action had resolved itself to house to house fighting within the town. Still further south, elements of the 353rd and 272nd Divisions fought stubbornly to maintain STRASS and GEY. However, by night fall the former town had been evacuated and house to house fighting continued in the latter. At no time did the enemy make a counter-attack on the Corps front to regain any of his losses.

Within the zone of advance of the VII Corps the enemy had deployed north to south, the 246th Volksgrenadier, 3rd Parachute, 353rd Parachute, 344th Infantry Divisions, and the 981st Regiment of the 272nd Volksgrenadier Division; all comprising a total strength of approximately 12,840 men. Immediate reserves were placed at 11,000 and the grand total of troops that could have been employed against VII Corps were estimated at 46,840.

Since the beginning of the latest offensive the enemy had shown his intentions to defend every yard of German soil. This defensive battle had been waged with equal determination from open field fortifications, from villages, and from the forest areas west of the RUR River. In almost every instance, when he was forced to yield ground, he counter-attacked with his immediate reserves to regain his positions. The ability of his infantry units to remain relatively effective, regardless of heavy losses and questionably trained personnel, had precluded the necessity of committing his panzer reserves. Equally noteworthy was the increased effectiveness of his artillery due to employment by battalions rather than by single guns.

The 104th Infantry Division, 9th Infantry Division, and 3rd Armored Division were supported by two squadrons each of IX Tactical Air Command fighter-bombers, while one squadron supported the 83rd Infantry Division. Three groups of medium bombers attacked BERESDORF (F-1048), and two groups bombed the MUCHEM-STAMMELN (F-1051) area. Results were reported as good.

83rd Infantry Division (8th Regimental Combat Team and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached,): SCHAFBERG, STRASS, and the high ground in the vicinity of F-083381 were captured and units entered GEY where stiff resistance was encountered. The 8th Infantry rotated units and adjusted lines in preparation to being relieved by the 329th Infantry which moved from VIII Corps area and closed in the Division zone.

9th Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Attacked in conjunction with elements of the 3rd Armored Division and successively occupied OBERGEICH, D'HORN, and SCHTZ against light resistance.

3rd Armored Division: Combat Command Howze, comprising Task Forces Kane and Hogan, in conjunction with elements of the 9th Infantry Division advanced through the mud to occupy OBERGEICH and secure the Division objective of SCHTZ.

104th Infantry Division: Advanced initially against light opposition to reach PIER where stiff resistance was encountered. Other units reached the OPLR established the night before.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson): Prepared to attack with Combat Command Cole closing in as embly area in the vicinity of F-0437

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and the 85th Armored Reconnaissance Battalion assembling in the vicinity of F-039371.

1st Infantry Division (less 16th Regimental Combat Team): Remained in rest areas in Belgium.

83rd Infantry Division

In the attack of the VII Corps to seize the west bank of the RUR River with the ultimate objective of crossing that stream and continuing the advance on KOLN (F-4460), the 83rd Division was assigned the mission of protecting the right (south) flank of the Corps, and to initially seize the STRASS - GEY (F-0739) area, and then continue to the RUR where the west bank was to be secured between LENDERSDORF (F-1141) and ROER (F-1045), including ROLSDORF (F-1144).

The 330th Infantry on the right flank of the Division was assigned the mission of capturing STRASS and the high ground in the vicinity of BERZBUIRER KNIPP (F-0940), protection of the right flank and maintaining contact with units on its right (initially the 121st Infantry). Objectives of the 331st Infantry were GEY, then HILL 216 (F-083402) and the high ground and road (vic F-089416) leading to BIRGEL (F-0942) the next objective. At 0630 the 330th and 331st Infantry Regiments attacked.

The 1st and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry, attacked STRASS while Company G was committed to clean out the village of SCHAFBERG (F-0738). The 3rd Battalion by-passed SCHAFBERG and advanced against small arms, mortar and light artillery fire with Companies L and K reinforced by tank destroyers entering the town of STRASS which was cleared during the latter part of the period. Meanwhile Companies A and B advanced about 300 yards against stiff resistance with attached tank and tank destroyers units reaching the high ground in the vicinity of F-083381. The 1st Battalion took up positions at F-076381 - F-076378 - F-073774 and with elements of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron contained the enemy to the southwest. Companies I and G held positions at F-070385 - F-072388 with the rest of the 2nd Battalion in reserve and remaining elements of the 3rd Battalion at F-080390 - F-076392.

The 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, encountered very heavy artillery and mortar fire upon reaching GEY, and although our troops succeeded in forcing their way into the town, it had not been cleared at the end of the period, and stiff fighting was in progress. All other units of the Regiment occupied the same positions as the previous period as did the 8th Infantry on the left flank of the Division. Artillery with the 8th Infantry inflicted very heavy casualties on a battalion strength group of enemy on the road east of HAF HARDT (F-0643).

Regimental Combat Team 329 was relieved from attachment to 4th Infantry Division, left vicinity of LUXEMBOURG (P-8421) at 0913 and closed in an assembly area south of GRESSENICH (K-9742) at 1900. Preparations were begun for relieving the 8th Infantry the next day. The 329th Infantry remained in Division Reserve.

9th Infantry Division

The 9th Infantry Division had the mission of attacking to the east in

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conjunction with the 3rd Armored Division to seize and hold initially the towns of KONZENDORF (F-0746), MERODE (F-0445), SCHLICH (F-0545), and SCHTZ (F-0748), and then the west bank of the RUR River from south of MARIAWEILER (F-0947) to north of HOVEN (F-0848).

Upon Division order the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry, attacked at 1515 from the vicinity of JUNGERSDORF (F-0446) to capture D'HORN (F-0447) and be prepared to later seize the towns of SCHLICH and MERODE. The attack was made to the east along the railroad under the cover of smoke and supporting machine gun and mortar fire of the 1st and 3rd Battalions. Demonstrations were also made by these two battalions and the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron on the right. The 2nd Battalion advanced rapidly with Company E entering D'HORN at 1630 and advancing beyond the town where roads were blocked at F-056463 and F-060462. Other units of the Battalion consolidated the objective. Company G on the left took up positions at F-058466 and Company F assembled in the vicinity of LANGERWEHE (F-0247). The 1st and 3rd Battalions remained in reserve positions.

The 60th Infantry with the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, attached, attacked to seize and hold the bank of the lake in the vicinity of F-053449, and to capture the towns of OBERGEICH, GEICH, and ROTHEAUS (F-0546) in conjunction with the 3rd Armored Division. The attack was begun by the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, at 0730. Initially little resistance was met and only light artillery fire encountered. By 1000 the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, had reached the southern portion of its objective and was supported by tanks on the right and elements of the 415th Infantry on the left. A small counterattack of enemy infantry from the vicinity of F-055484 at 1255 hours was repulsed with tank and artillery fire. Considerable resistance was met on the left flank and further progress was denied until after dark when the flank was extended to the northwest edge of the lake.

At 1515 the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 60th Infantry, attacked on order in conjunction with elements of the 3rd Armored Division to take GEICH and ROTHHAUS. The Armored task force was held up by minefields between OBERGEICH and GEICH, but later when it (Task Force Hogan) by-passed the former town, elements of the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, followed, and proceeded to GEICH. The 2nd Battalion entered the town and Company E set up a roadblock to the south at ROTHEAUS (vicinity of F-057467). The 1st Battalion moved in back of Task Force Kane at 1530 toward SCHTZ, advancing across country against scattered resistance and succeeded in placing two companies in the town and Company A on the commanding ground to the west (F-055483). The 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, was not committed while the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 47th Infantry remained in Division Reserve prepared to move on order to the vicinity of the positions held by the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (F-0443) or LANGERWEHE in the advent of an enemy counterattack.

3rd Armored Division

At 0730 Task Force Kane moved rapidly to positions along the high ground in the vicinity of STUTGERHOF (F-0447) to support by fire the attack of Task Force Hogan on GEICH. Task Force Hogan attacked at 0745 and initially encountered artillery and anti-tank fire. The advance was further hampered by extremely muddy terrain. Upon reaching the western edge of OBERGEICH the Task Force was halted by a minefield and heavy anti-tank and small arms fire

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from the town. Suitable routes for tank employment were not available but the town was brought under heavy fire from the north, south, and west, and infantry of the 3rd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, entered the town. By 1700 mopping up operations had been completed and OBERGEICH was secured. The advance toward GEICH was continued with the outskirts of the town being reached at 1725. Under heavy artillery, anti-tank, and small arms fire the Battalion withdrew for the night to positions between GEICH and OBERGEICH, prepared to renew the attack 11 December.

Task Force Kane attacked at 1400 hours, moving from its previous positions across-country toward the Division objective--ECHTZ. A sucessful advance was made over difficult terrain, and by 1700 the northwestern edge of the town had been reached. In spite of mortar and small arms fire the advance into the town continued, and ECHTZ was occupied. By 2100 all resistance had ceased, and the town was secured. By 1720 other elements of Combat Command Howze (Reserve) with units of the 60th Infantry had established a road block at ROTHHAUS. Remaining elements of Combat Command Howze held original positions in the vicinity of F-030478. Elements of the 60th Infantry which followed in the advance of Combat Command Howze assisted in mopping up operations in both ECHTZ and OBERGEICH.

104th Infantry Division

Objectives of the 104th Division were to seize PIER (F-0552), SCHOPHOVEN (F-0554) and OPL of 415th Infantry. The 414th Infantry was assigned this mission while the 415th Infantry was to support them by fire in seizing these initial objectives and prevent hostile reinforcements from MERKEN (F-0750) reaching PIER. The 413th Infantry remained in Division Reserve, prepared to move to either WEISWEILER (F-0048) or FRENZ (F-0149) to pass through the 414th and 415th Infantry Regiments after the west banks of the RUR were secured between SCHOPHOVEN and MERKEN.

Companies A and B, 414th Infantry, attacked abreast at 0745 and at 0840 were on the western edge of PIER, having advanced more than 1200 yards under a very effective rolling artillery barrage that had a devestating effect on the enemy. Here heavy small arms fire and fire from a dozen emplaced self-propelled guns within the town were encountered. Nevertheless eight of nine supporting tanks were able to be brought up and reached Company A. A fierce battle ensued in the western end of the town and toward the close of the period our forces had a firm grip on that section with elements of Companies A, B, and C, meeting stubborn house to house resistance.

Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, attacked toward SCHOPHOVEN from the railroad in eastern INDEN (F-0352). Initially resistance was light, but as the objective was neared, the 3rd Battalion met increasingly heavy fire from the town itself and from bunkers to the west of the town. At 1510 the Battalion halted and reorganized on the high ground 600 yards west of SCHOPHOVEN in the vicinity of F-051534 - F-053531. During the day the 2nd Battalion moved up to INDEN from ESCHWEILER (K-9647), and about 1900 started the move from INDEN to join the 1st Battalion in the fight for PIER.

Artillery

9th Division: Fired 131 missions as follows: 27 preparation, 2 personnel,

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55 close support, 15 counterbattery, 2 tank, 26 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3253.

83rd Division: Fired 172 missions as follows: 47 personnel, 19 mortar and machine gun, 14 close support, 10 counterbattery, 2 tank, 44 interdiction and harassing, and 36 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3749.

104th Division: Fired 205 missions as follows: 49 preparation, 33 personnel, 30 mortar and machine gun, 11 counterbattery, 10 tank, 42 interdiction and harassing and 30 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6157.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 210 missions as follows: 42 preparation, 10 personnel, 10 mortar and machine gun, 73 close support, 23 counterbattery, 12 tank, 35 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6428.

5th Armored Division: Fired 37 missions as follows: 17 personnel, 5 counterbattery, 13 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1129.

Corps: Fired 263 missions as follows: 56 preparation, 14 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 12 close support, 99 counterbattery, 49 interdiction and harassing, and 32 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6049.

A heavy counterbattery preparation was fired 10 December in support of VII Corps attack. TOT's averaging 5 battalion volleys were placed on each of 50 enemy batteries by the artillery of V, VII, and XIX Corps and division medium battalions. The preparation began at 0706 hours and was completed at H-hour (0745). Few reports of enemy artillery fire were received during the period.

In addition to the counterbattery fires, heavy TOT's averaging 7 battalion volleys were placed on each of the five towns of GEICH, ECHTZ, MARIAWEILER, HOVEN, and MERKEN between H and H + 60 minutes.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 hours. The 116th AAA Gun Bn fired 3 missions in support of VII Corps Arty on enemy artillery positions, expending 100 rounds of 90mm ammunition indirect fire.

Tank Destroyers: 628th TD Bn (SP) expended 51 rounds of 90mm HE indirect fire on harassing missions. The 629th TD Bn expended 5 rounds of 3" APC direct fire on enemy tanks. 692nd TD Bn expended 196 rounds of 3" HE indirect fire on 5 harassing missions and 2 rounds of 3" illuminating shell and 16 rounds 3" HE and 2 rounds 3" HVAP T/4 (high velocity armor piercing, fuze T/4) knocking out 2 enemy tanks.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 144.

11 DECEMBER 1944

MERCDE (F-0545), SCHLICH (F-0645), and GEICH (F-0547) were captured as VII Corps continued its advance toward the RUR River. A successful night attack was made on the left flank and gains registered in the MERKEN (F-0750),

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MERODE, and SCHLICH areas. Light counter-attacks were repulsed on the right flank where enemy forces infiltrated and succeeded in reoccupying SCHAFBERG (F-0738). The 5th Armored Division was committed on the extreme right of the Corps zone of action but made little progress. Elsewhere Corps troops continued fighting for GEY (F-0739) and PIER (F-0552).

The enemy's action throughout the day was chiefly characterized by a number of isolated battles from village strong points and by house to house fighting whenever these villages were entered. From his positions in SCHOPHOVEN (F-0554) the enemy was able for the second consecutive day to prevent our troops from entering the town, while in PIER his employment of self-propelled guns and dug-in tanks enabled him to maintain a position in the northwest quarter of the village. Within MERKEN the same stubborn resistance was offered, and at the close of the period the enemy still fought from the eastern edge of the town.

In the vicinity of MERODE and SCHLICH elements of the 3rd Parachute Division offered strong resistance, using self-propelled and machine guns, but finally were forced to yield both towns by mid-afternoon. Likewise anti-tank and artillery fire was employed to protect the western approaches to HOVEN (F-0848) and to limit the eastward advance of our armor toward the town. In the STRASS - GEY area the enemy continued his very stubborn resistance. Reinforced by the 6th Parachute Regiment, 2nd Parachute Division, elements of the 353rd Division maintained its defenses south of STRASS, while troops in GEY continued to fight from homes and the debris of the village.

The enemy was also successful in infiltrating approximately a company of infantry into SCHAFBERG causing delay to our troops. Mines, anti-tank fire, and dug-in infantry likewise were able to retard the progress of our tanks throughout the area. At 1900 the enemy attempted to regain STRASS by counter-attacking from the southeast with a small number of infantry and self-propelled guns. By 2200 he was forced to withdraw without having gained his objective.

Four squadrons of IX Tactical Air Command fighter-bombers supported the 83rd Division, three the 104th Division, two the 3rd Armored Division, and one the 9th Division. Results of these close support missions were reported as good.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 4th Cavalry Group, less 4th and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons, attached): Combat Command Cole was committed on the extreme right of the Corps zone and passed through the 330th Infantry, making little progress against heavy mortar, artillery and anti-tank fire. Combat Command Regnier moved to a forward assembly area, prepared to pass through the 331st Infantry and attack through GEY, but was unable to due to continued fighting in the town.

83rd Infantry Division (8th Regimental Combat Team and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, attached): Right flank elements repulsed 2 small counter-attacks against STRASS and were engaged with enemy that infiltrated back into SCHAFBERG. Fighting in GEY continued against stubborn resistance. Relief of the 8th Infantry was completed by the 329th Infantry which moved into the line on the left flank. The 8th Infantry assembled in the vic-

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inity of F-0040, prepared to move to VIII Corps area.

9th Infantry Division (4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): MERODE and SCHLICH were cleared and over 300 prisoners taken in the two towns. Other elements advanced to the western edge of KOMZENDORF (F-0746). The 47th Infantry took over the Division left flank.

3rd Armored Division: Combat Command Howze resumed the attack, but fire from self-propelled guns at HOVEN and MARIAWEILER prevented the advance east of ECHTZ. GETCH had to be temporarily by-passed due to the fierce fires burning in the town which made it impossible to enter.

104th Infantry Division: Attacked under cover of darkness, surprising the enemy in MERKEN and by the close of the period had cleaned over two-thirds of the town in hard house to house fighting. The same sort of resistance was encountered in PIER for the second consecutive day. Little progress was made against SCHOPPCVEN when the attack was resumed in the afternoon.

1st Infantry Division (less 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry): The 1st and 3rd Battalions, 16th Infantry, returned to Division control, and moved from V Corps sector to rest areas in the vicinity of HERVE (F-6228) and DISON (F-6625), respectively. The 18th and 26th Infantry Regiments continued in rest areas in eastern Belgium.

5th Armored Division

The Division was committed on the extreme right of VII Corps with the mission of protecting the right flank and attacking to the east to seize the west bank of the RUR River between the hamlets of HOCHKOPPEL (F-1137) and PIDENICH (F-1140). Combat Command Cole was assigned the task of attacking from the vicinity of KLEINHAU (F-0537) to seize the woods in the vicinity of F-095395; block to the south along the line: F-082380 - F-100380 until relieved on Division order. Upon completion of these initial tasks the Combat Command was to be prepared to continue the attack on order and seize BERGHUT (F-1038) and then to seize and hold HILL 253 (F-107382). Combat Command Regnier had the mission of attacking from the vicinity of KLEINHAU to the northeast to seize and hold the village of KUPPERATH (F-1039), and then move to capture HILL 211 (F-112395).

Combat Command Cole attacked at 0730 with dismounted infantry supported by tanks and made very slow progress, reaching the vicinity of F-0838. The north column (tank) stopped just west of SCHAFBERG (F-0738) where it took cover while waiting for the town to be cleared by infantry. At 1830 the Combat Command was ordered to mop up in the positions it then occupied which were: F-076380 - F-078379 - F-076375 - F-079373 - F-065377.

Unable to attack through GEY which was still being contested by the enemy, Combat Command Regnier was forced to assemble in the vicinity of GROSSHAU (F-0538). Due to traffic congestion in that area part of the Command returned to the HAHN (K-9135) area. The 4th Cavalry Group, less certain detachments, was attached to the Division at 0730 with the mission of protecting the right (south) flank. Elements of the Group were disposed along the line: F-064376 - F-080379; blocked toward the south, and supported Combat Command Cole. The 85th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was attached

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to the 4th Cavalry Group, prepared to follow any advance of Combat Command Cole and extend the right flank screen.

83rd Infantry Division

No progress was made on the right of the Division during the day by the 330th Infantry. The 3rd Battalion continued to hold positions in the vicinity of F-099390 with Companies K and L remaining in STRASS despite two enemy counter-attacks. Although these units were out of physical contact with other elements of the Regiment radio communications with the companies remained intact. The 1st Battalion continued to hold its same positions and during the morning elements of Combat Command Cole, 5th Armored Division, passed through it to the east. Enemy infantry succeeded in infiltrating back into SCHAFBERG (F-0738) which they reoccupied. Positions of the Regiment at the end of the period were as follows: 1st Battalion, F-075375 - F-073374; 2nd Battalion, F-074385 - F-073384 - F-073383; 3rd Battalion, F-077393 - F-080391 - F-080388, with Company I at F-069385.

While Companies E and F, 331st Infantry, continued to hold the western half of GEY (F-0739) and were engaged in hard house to house fighting with the enemy there, Company A attacked toward the southern part of the town and Company G attacked the town from the south. Progress was slow due to heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, but some slight progress was made in clearing mines from the east-west road through the town. Company A reached F-067394 - F-068397 and Company G advanced to F-067391 - F-067393. Companies C and B held positions at F-057402 and F-058404, respectively with the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of F-050403.

The 329th Infantry moved into the line completing relief of the 8th Infantry at 1400, disposed as follows: 1st Battalion, F-053429 - F-055422; 2nd Battalion F-053429 - F-053432 and F-050431 - F-050434; and the 3rd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of F-045423. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, continued to plug the gap between the 331st and 329th Infantry Regiments, and maintain contact between the two Regiments.

9th Infantry Division

At 0800 the 39th Infantry attacked with the 1st Battalion on the right attacking southeast from its previous positions to seize the town of MERODE (F-0445), and the 2nd Battalion on the left moved south from the vicinity of D'HORN (F-0546) to assault SCHLICH (F-0545). Initially both battalions received heavy enemy artillery fire. Stiff resistance was met by the 1st Battalion from enemy occupied bunkers and dug-in positions. Company A reached the edge of MERODE at 0835 while other units cleaned out the bunkers, and after dark the 1st Battalion consolidated positions on the objective. Meanwhile Company K was committed, making a limited attack to the edge of the woods in the vicinity of F-046447 to maintain contact with the 1st Battalion and engaged in a heavy small arms fire fight in which four enemy machine guns were knocked out.

The 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry, entered SCHLICH with Companies E and G in the lead. The enemy defended stubbornly and heavy house to house fighting ensued. Company F later moved up along the railroad tracks from JUNGERSDORF (F-0446) and by 1630 the 2nd Battalion had cleaned the enemy from the

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town of SCHLICH, taking over 190 prisoners in the action, making the total taken by the Division for the first two days of the offensive more than 730.

In the zone of the 60th Infantry the attack was continued to complete the occupation of ECHTZ (F-0748) and to seize KONZENDORF (F-0746). Mopping up operations were resumed by the 1st Battalion in ECHTZ at first light and by 1200 the town was considered cleared of the enemy. Company A moved to positions in the western part of the village, and through the remainder of the period the town was shelled by the enemy. Effective at 2400 the 1st Battalion was attached to Task Force Kane of the 3rd Armored Division.

The 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, attacked to seize KONZENDORF, crossing the line of departure in ROTHHAUS (F-0546) at 0800 hours. By 0915 the 3rd Battalion had advanced to the western part of its objective and a fire fight developed with the enemy at MARIAWEILER (F-0947) and DERICHSWEILER (F-0744) which continued until 1500. The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, assisted by Task Force Hogan of the 3rd Armored Division, moved on GEICH (F-0547) and after a furious fight reduced the town. Defensive positions were taken up with Company E in GEICH, Company F in OBERGEICH (F-0547) and Company G in ROTHHAUS.

Elements of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron attacked in conjunction with the 39th Infantry and after engaging several enemy groups in fire fights, knocked out a stubborn machine gun position in the vicinity of F-051438. Final positions were consolidated at F-053434 and F-043445. Positions at LUCHEM (F-0349) and along the line: F-052497 - F-055483 were held by the 1st Battalion, 47th Infantry, which reverted to Regimental control at 1700. At 0900 the 2nd Battalion moved to a new assembly area in the vicinity of LANGERWEHE (F-0247) closing in that location by 1130 hours. The 3rd Battalion remained in the vicinity of F-003433.

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Howze resumed offensive operations at 0800 hours when Task Force Kane attacked from the eastern edge of ECHTZ (F-0748) with the mission of capturing the town of HOVEN (F-0848). Immediately upon crossing the line of departure fire was received from an estimated 6 anti-tank guns in the vicinity of the objective. At the same time Task Force Hogan attacked GEICH (F-0547) and after reducing the town and leaving only enough troops there to man road blocks, joined Task Force Kane in a combined attack on HOVEN at 1000 hours. Again the attackers were subjected to heavy anti-tank and tank fire from HOVEN.

Elements of the infantry from Combat Command Howze succeeded in reaching a line 500 to 700 yards east of ECHTZ where they were brought under mortar and artillery fire by the enemy. Unable to advance the infantry were brought back into ECHTZ and reorganized. At 1700 the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, was attached to the Combat Command and plans made for the continuation of the assault on HOVEN in the morning. Combat Commands Boudinot and Hickey and the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, less Company B, remained in assembly positions.

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104th Infantry Division

Attacking under the cover of darkness the 1st Battalion, 415th Infantry, passed through the 3rd Battalion at 0400, advancing to the northwest edge of MERKEN (F-0750) where their night assault surprised the German garrison, and enabled our troops to gain control of more than two-thirds of the town in stubborn house to house fighting. More than 150 prisoners were captured including all the defenders of VILVENICH (F-0651) where the PIER (F-0552) - MERKEN Road was cut and blocked by a platoon from Company A. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 415th Infantry, were not engaged. Companies E, F, and G remained in FRENZ (F-0149), south INDEN (F-0251), and GOLDSTEIN GRUBE (F-0350), respectively, and the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of LUCHERBERG (F-0450).

Company E joined the 1st Battalion, 414th Infantry, in the assault on PIER at 0300 with other elements of the 2nd Battalion remaining in the vicinity of INDEN. Despite determined efforts of the attackers to reduce the town, the defenders fought stubbornly, employing self-propelled guns and small arms fire from within PIER to resist our efforts to seize the objective throughout the day. At the end of the period the enemy still held his battered defenses.

Following a bombing and strafing mission by supporting aircraft, the 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, attacked SCHOPHOVEN (F-0554) and attempted to move in on the town. After an advance of about 100 yards the attackers were pinned down by machine gun fire from the outskirts of SCHOPHOVEN, and no further advance was made. Positions were held at F-044537 - F-047538 - F-051531. The 413th Infantry remained in reserve with the 1st Battalion at HEHLRATH (F-9449), and the 2nd and 3rd Battalions assembled in DURWISS (F-9749).

Artillery

9th Division: Fired 114 missions as follows: 18 preparation, 20 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 29 close support, 2 counterbattery, 29 interdiction and harassing, and 15 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2563.

83rd Division: Fired 153 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 34 personnel, 8 mortar and machine gun, 8 close support, 8 counterbattery, 7 tank, 51 interdiction and harassing, and 36 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2776.

104th Division: Fired 146 missions as follows: 27 preparation, 36 personnel, 10 mortar and machine gun, 13 counterbattery, 45 interdiction and harassing, and 15 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4729.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 155 missions as follows: 13 preparation, 4 personnel, 12 mortar and machine gun, 85 close support, 5 tank, 24 interdiction and harassing, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3465.

5th Armored Division: Fired 32 missions as follows: 3 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 6 counterbattery, 4 tank, 11 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1439.

Corps: Fired 217 missions as follows: 26 preparation, 22 personnel, 26 close support, 42 counterbattery, 2 tank, 86 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4810.

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On 11 December a forward observer of the 929th FA Bn, 104th Inf Div Arty, spotted 2 German soldiers marching 17 captured American soldiers across a field. The FO placed time fire in front of the group forcing them to the left where they were intercepted by other American soldiers who freed the prisoners and led them back to our lines.

A flash observer of the 13th FA Obsn Bn spotted approximately a company of enemy infantry. He called for artillery and was given the 751st FA Bn (155 H) which he adjusted on the enemy. The Bn switched to time fire in their fire for effect, and results were reported as excellent by the observer. Some of the enemy took refuge in a house. The observer proceeded to adjust the Bn on the house using delay fuze. He reported that three direct hits shook the house and set it afire.

Antiaircraft: Although Automatic Weapons battalions with the 109th AAA Gp engaged between 4 and 11 FW-190's between 1715 and 1725 without any claims, AW battalions with the divisions claimed 4 FW-190's destroyed and 2 probably destroyed out of an estimated 2 squadrons (24 +) which carried out low level bombing and strafing in the forward area of VII Corps in the vicinity of F-0440. No damage to any defended area was reported although Antiaircraft units suffered some casualties. (Note: AAA report for 24 hour period ending 110600)

Tank Destroyers: An enemy strong point was neutralized and two tanks destroyed by the 629th TD Bn (SP) which expended 15 rounds of 3" APC, 17 rounds 3" HE, and 5 rounds HE with T-105 fuze. The 692nd TD Bn (T) expended 128 rounds of 3" HERC (High explosive reduced charge) indirect fire on 20 harassing mission, and 114 rounds of 3" APC and 94 rounds HE, both direct fire, on assault missions. A Mark IV tank was destroyed by the 703rd TD Bn (SP) with 3 rounds of 90mm APC direct fire. This Battalion also expended 5 rounds of HE on enemy strong points. The 899th TD Bn (SP) fired 62 rounds of 3" APC and 112 rounds of 3" HE, both direct fire, on assault missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 734.

12 DECEMBER 1944

While right flank elements cleared HAF HARDT (F-0643), reoccupied SCHAFBERG (F-0738) and made progress in the fight for GEY (F-0739), substantial gains were made in the center of the Corps zone and on the left flank as HOVEN (F-0848) was captured, three-quarters of MARIAWEILER (F-0947) occupied and both MERKEN (F-0750) and PIER (F-0552) completely cleared of the enemy. Leading elements of the VII Corps were less than a mile from the city of DUREN on the RUR River.

Again the enemy continued his defense of village strong points, fighting from house to house until being forced from the last cellar, then repeating his stand in the next village in the path of our advance. Throughout the day the enemy lost the towns of PIER, MERKEN, HOVEN, HAF HARDT, and SCHAFBERG after their garrisons had been rooted from the houses and adjoining field defenses. By continuing to hold SCHOPHOVEN (F-0554), POMMENICH (F-0652), and the southeastern fringe of MARIAWEILER the enemy was able to prevent our troops from completely occupying the western bank of the RUR River from DUREN north to the Corps boundary, above SCHOPHOVEN.

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Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 734.

12 DECEMBER 1944

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In addition the enemy managed to hold a portion of DERICHSWEILER (F-0744) and GEY, where he fought tenaciously. At 1500 what was believed to have been the beginning of a counter-attack against GEY resulted merely in a demonstration with no follow up made by the enemy. However, throughout the GEY - STRASS area artillery and mortar fire was heavy and continuous, which, added to the difficulties imposed by the terrain and minefields, made any advance by our right flank divisions very hazardous.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 4th Cavalry Group, less 4th and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadrons, attached): Combat Command Cole consolidated positions held at the close of the previous period while Combat Command Regnier remained in assembly positions.

83rd Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, attached): Cleared SCHAFBERG, captured HAF HARDT and made progress in the fight for GEY.

9th Infantry Division (less 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, with 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, attached): Continued the advance to the RUR, with elements fighting inside MARIAWEILER and DERICHSWEILER with both towns more than half cleared.

3rd Armored Division (1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, attached): Combat Command Howze reached its final objective when Task Force Kane captured HOVEN.

104th Infantry Division: Captured PIER and MERKEN.

83rd Infantry Division

SCHAFBERG (F-0738) was attacked by the 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, at 0730 and despite direct fire from self-propelled guns and tanks from within the town, the Battalion was able to move in with Companies G and E and clear the town by 1745. The 1st Battalion which had been relieved by Combat Command Cole, 5th Armored Division, moved into SCHAFBERG to hold the town. The 2nd Battalion turned north and made contact with the 3rd Battalion in STRASS (F-0739). Previously, an artillery liaison airplane had dropped food to the units in STRASS.

The 331st Infantry regrouped with the 3rd Battalion replacing the 2nd Battalion in the assault on GEY (F-0739). The relieved unit withdrew to F-061397 - F-060392 to reorganize. Company A attacked from the north and succeeded in making contact with the 3rd Battalion in the western part of GEY, where positions were improved. Enemy mortar and artillery fire continued heavy throughout the day. Other elements of the 1st Battalion held positions at F-061401 and F-057402.

On the left flank of the Division the 329th Infantry attacked at 1000 with the 1st and 2nd Battalions moving initially against resistance comprised of small arms and machine gun fire. Opposition stiffened toward the middle of the day, and Company F was subjected to particularly heavy artillery fire. However, the Regimental objective, HAF HARDT (F-0643) was taken by 1350 and a total of 80 prisoners captured. Final positions were as follows: 1st Battalion, F-058427 - F-057421 with Company F at F-060428; 2nd Battalion, F-057438 - F-058435 with Company G at F-061434. The 3rd Battalion remained in reserve in the vicinity of F-044423.

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9th Infantry Division

The 1st Battalion and Company F, 39th Infantry, attacked from the vicinity of MERODE (F-0545) and SCHLICH (F-0645) at 0800 toward ROTTFELD (F-0643), encountering small arms and mortar fire from the woods in addition to many mines. Nevertheless, these units advanced to positions astride the road in the woods in the vicinity of F-058442 and cleared out the enemy. Company C remained in MERODE. At 1245 the 3rd Battalion attacked from the line of D'HORN (F-0546) - SCHLICH, advancing under the cover of smoke to the southern edge of its objective at DERICHSWEILER (F-0745) against resistance composed of small arms, mortar and artillery fire. The advance into the town was continued with Company I entering at 1430 hours, followed by Company L. Supporting tanks were held up by mines, but the infantry pressed the attack to clean out the town, and by 1515 Company L was well into the town. A column of enemy troops marching along one of the streets of DERICHSWEILER was dispersed by Company I in a fire fight at about 2035. By the close of the period over half of DERICHSWEILER was in our hands, about 150 enemy had been taken prisoners, Companies I and L had consolidated positions for the night and established contact with Company L, 60th Infantry, holding a road block at F-081458.

In conjunction with the attack of the 39th Infantry, the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron also attacked to the east and maintained contact between the 39th Infantry on the left and the 83rd Division (329th Infantry) on the right. Troop C moved at 0815 to attack enemy positions in the vicinity of F-049442 while Troop A made a diversionary attack against enemy positions along the line: F-053436 - F-052438. After Troop C had cleaned out that pocket of enemy, taking a number of prisoners, it moved northeast to contact Company A, 39th Infantry. Troop A, after light contact west of the enemy's line, had a skirmish with an estimated company of Germans and maintained contact until the arrival of Company E, 329th Infantry, after which the Troop returned to its original positions in the vicinity of F-047431 at 1715 hours.

While the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, was attached to Task Force Kane of Combat Command Rowne, 3rd Armored Division, the 2nd Battalion attacked MARIAWEILER (F-0947). The 2nd Battalion left GEICH (F-0547) at 0500, marched to the east and crossed its line of departure east of ECHTZ (F-0748) at 0730 hours. The Battalion advanced south and east to reach the edge of MARIAWEILER where heavy resistance was encountered. After hard fighting the town was cleared by 1300. Shortly thereafter the enemy counter-attacked with infantry and self-propelled guns from the southeastern corner of the town. Although the brunt of the attack was repulsed and some of his armor destroyed, Company G, 60th Infantry was split, and a few enemy still remained in MARIAWEILER after dark. The Battalion held the town with Company G in the southern part, Company F in the center and Company E in the northern section.

The 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, supported the attack of the 2nd Battalion by fire and late in the day pushed its own lines forward to include a group of buildings in KAHLENDORF (F-0746). At 1530 Company L moved further east and established a road block at the crossroads at F-081458. From this point patrols maintained contact with the 2nd Battalion and elements of the 39th Infantry to the right.

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Defensive positions protecting the left flank of the Division were held by the 47th Infantry, which also maintained contact with the 415th Infantry (104th Division) on the left. An outpost was established in the vicinity of P-071194 and contact maintained with the 1st Battalion, 504th Infantry with Task Force Kane to the right.

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Howze continued the attack to capture [redacted] (P-0848) at 0800 hours. Task Force Kane (1st Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, reinforced by 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Regiment, and certain other attachments) moved from the eastern edge of [redacted] (P-0718) and advanced steadily against strong enemy opposition of tank, anti-tank, and artillery fire. By 1040 leading elements of the Task Force had arrived on the objective ([redacted]) and by 1630 the town was completely secured and road blocks established at P-087493, P-091486, P-088492 and P-084485. Task Force Roger moved from [redacted] (P-0517) during the morning and secured [redacted]. At 2400 the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, was relieved from attachment to Combat Command Howze and the Combat Command assumed full responsibility for the security of [redacted]. A second company (Company D) of the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion was attached to Combat Command Howze at that time. Both Combat Commands Hickey and Boudinot and remaining elements of the Armored Reconnaissance Battalion remained in previous locations.

104th Infantry Division

The town of PIER (P-0552) which had resisted the attack of the 414th Infantry for two days fell at 1200 hours under the combined assault of Companies G, E, and F, 414th Infantry, and supporting armored units of Company A, 750th Tank Battalion. At 0645 Company G moved into the town from the southwest and Companies E and F attacked from the northwest. Company G immediately gained a foothold and tanks swept into the town from the south which aided the infantry in gaining the houses on the outskirts of that section. The other two Companies commenced to move in at 0820 and during the morning the town was cleared in house to house fighting.

Mopping up operations were continued by the 1st Battalion, 415th Infantry, in [redacted] (P-0758), supported by Company C, 750th Tank Battalion, at daylight. By dusk the enemy had been driven from the remaining houses in the town and the southern end of [redacted] had been gained. There was no change among other units of the Division.

Artillery

9th Division: Fired 114 missions as follows: 24 preparation, 3 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 31 close support, 8 counterbattery, 35 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: [redacted].

83rd Division: Fired 158 missions as follows: 2 preparation, 24 personnel, 15 mortar and machine gun, 39 close support, 13 counterbattery, 1 tank, 65 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2773.

104th Division: Fired 137 missions as follows: 43 preparation, 26 personnel, 9 mortar and machine gun, 16 counterbattery, 2 tank, 43 interdiction

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and harassing, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4464.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 39 missions as follows: 8 preparation, 4 personnel, 14 close support, 1 counterbattery, 9 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 229[illegible].

5th Armored Division: Fired 62 missions as follows: 12 personnel, 18 mortar and machine gun, 12 counterbattery, 3 tank, 12 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1514.

Corps: Fired 184 missions as follows: 26 preparation, 3 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 12 close support, 49 counterbattery, 7 tank, 7[illegible] interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2814.

At 1615 an 83rd Div Arty Air P dropped two cases of "D" rations to troops in STRASS (F-0739).

Antiaircraft: 10 FW-190's and ME-109's entered the Corps area at 1620 apparently on a reconnaissance mission. Four ME-109's and 2 FW-190's out of 7 enemy planes engaged were shot down by the 453rd AAA AW Bn with the 83rd Div. Corps AA (109th AAA Gp) reported at 1710 hours, 12 to 15 ME-109's, FW-190's and Ju-87's dropped flares and did some bombing and strafing in forward areas. One enemy plane was destroyed by the 55[illegible]th AAA AW Bn with the 104th Div and another was probably destroyed. The 11[illegible]th AAA Gun Bn while not engaging any enemy craft during the 24 hour period ending at 0600, fired 8 missions in support of the Corps Arty, expending 500 rounds of unobserved 90mm fire.

Tank Destroyers: A harassing mission was fired by the 635th TD Bn in which 57 rounds of 3" HERC indirect fire was expended. The 692nd TD Bn fired 68 rounds of 3" APC and 114 rounds of 3" HE, direct fire, on 12 machine gun nests, 3 strong points, 3 OP's and one direct fire weapon. The [illegible]th TD Bn fired 1[illegible]0 rounds of 3" HERC indirect fire on 2 harassing mission, and 7 rounds of 3" APC and 42 rounds of 3" HERC direct fire on assault missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: [illegible]874.

13 DECEMBER 1944

SCHOPHOVEN (F-0553) was captured and the entire northern half of the Corps zone west of the RUR River cleared of enemy except for two isolated pockets located in the vicinity of F-0[illegible] and F-0[illegible]7. In the center of the zone both MARIAWEILER (F-0647) and DERICHSWEILER (F-0744) were taken and the northern half of [illegible] (F-0[illegible]) cleared. On the right flank GEY (F-0739) was finally captured and other slight gains made.

At 0500 hours the enemy resumed his defense of the RUR River by blowing the bridge east of [illegible] (F-0[illegible]) and later blew the bridge at F-0814[illegible], north of DERICHSWEILER. Shortly after this action remaining defenders of MARIAWEILER, [illegible] (F-0652), and DERICHSWEILER were forced to yield the remainder of these towns to our troops, while the defenders of SCHOPHOVEN and GEY, who had successfully maintained their positions for over two days, were finally evacuated after heavy house to house fighting.

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13 December SECRET

By nightfall, except for a small force in the MULLENARK Castle at F-062538, the enemy had fallen back to the east side of the RUR River from HOVEN north to the Corps boundary. Considerable ground was lost by the enemy when he was forced to fall back into GURZENICH (F-0944), losing half of the town before he could consolidate his positions. Although artillery fire was moderate to heavy in most of the village strong points, there was a decreases in anti-tank gun fire and a complete absence of tank activity indicating that the enemy had displaced most of his armored vehicles and self-propelled guns east of the RUR River.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 4th Cavalry Group, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron attached): Did not attack; waited for enemy and mines to be cleared from routes. 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was attached and moved to the vicinity of VICHT (K-9639). The Division suffered heavy casualties from intense mortar and artillery fire.

83rd Infantry Division (24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, attached): While GEY (F-0739) was being cleared left flank elements made good progress in the afternoon and cleared half of GURZENICH (F-0844).

9th Infantry Division: MARIAWEILER (F-0947), DERICHSWEILER (F-0744) and all the Division area west of the RUR River except a group of enemy in the factory at F-097467 was cleared. The 60th Infantry assumed responsibility for the security of HOVEN (F-0948).

3rd Armored Division: Combat Command Howze consolidated positions in the vicinity of HOVEN (F-0948) until relieved by the 60th Infantry in the afternoon. By the close of the period the Combat Command had closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of MAUSBACH (K-9640). Remainder of Division continued training in assembly areas.

104th Infantry Division: Cleared SIEVERNICH (F-0753) during the afternoon to complete clearing of Division area west of RUR River except for group of enemy in the castle at F-062538. Units patrolled the west bank of the River.

1st Infantry Division: Remained in rest areas.

83rd Infantry Division

Positions in the vicinity of STRASS (F-0739) were improved and consolidated by the 330th Infantry with the 3rd Battalion on the right and the 2nd Battalion on the left. The main supply road from SCHAVEN (F-0738) to STRASS was cleared by 0330 hours and supplies were moved into the town by armored convoy at 0700. Self-propelled gun fire and enemy tanks had prevented supplies from reaching STRASS during daylight hours. Enemy artillery fire was extremely heavy in STRASS and SCHAVEN where the 1st Battalion held positions.

At 0935 hours Company B, 331st Infantry, attacked through the 3rd battalion, 331st Infantry, holding positions in the western half of GEY (F-0739), toward the high ground to the east. Despite heavy concentrations of enemy artillery and mortar fire the town was reported cleared of enemy by

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1205. 117 prisoners were captured in this action. The 2nd Battalion held positions west of GEY while the 1st and 3rd Battalions occupied the town.

On the left flank of the Division the 329th Infantry made substantial progress with leading elements advancing 3500 yards to reach GURZENICH (F-0844) where the western part of the town was cleared of enemy. The attack was made at 0800 hours with elements of the 3rd Battalion on the right, the 1st Battalion in the center of the Regimental zone and the 2nd Battalion on the left. Small arms, morter fire and mines constituted the bulk of the initial resistance. In the afternoon Company G moved rapidly along the road from MAP HARDT (F-0643) and at 1340 reached the first buildings of the town of GURZENICH. Company F followed and passed through Company G at 1500. At 1600 Company E moved southeast of the rear of Company G. This rapid advance of the 2nd Battalion relieved the pressure on the 1st Battalion, making it possible for them to move quickly during the afternoon against only scattered resistance.

At 1600 Companies A and B moved forward about 2200 yards. Units of the 1st Battalion occupied positions in the WEYER HOF district of GURZENICH in the vicinity of F-0843. The 3rd Battalion advanced in a column of companies with Company I leading. At about 1100 several strong points were encountered and thereafter progress was slow. Company L moved to F-058424 and the rest of the Battalion held positions in the vicinity of F-050428.

9th Infantry Division

While the 1st and 2nd Battalions held previous positions in the vicinity of MERODE (F-0545), STREICH (F-0645) and ROTTFELD (F-0643), the 3rd Battalion, 39th Infantry, renewed operations to clear the enemy from DERICHSWEILER (F-0745). The attack to seize the town was continued at 0800 supported by tanks and tank destroyers, and by 1535 the Battalion was in complete control of the town. The 3rd Battalion was heavily engaged during the day with the enemy within DERICHSWEILER who fought stubbornly. Heavy artillery fire was also received from the vicinity of GURZENICH (F-0844) on the right flank.

From positions within MARIAWEILER (F-0947) the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry, attacked at 0730 to complete the seizure of the town. After stiff fighting in the southern portion of MARIAWEILER all the enemy were driven into the southeast section. Elements reached the factory area in the vicinity of F-064467 southeast of the town, but by darkness this was still in enemy hands. The 1st Battalion in KIVEL (F-0847) assisted the 2nd Battalion in overcoming enemy resistance as far as the northern edge of MARIAWEILER where contact was made with the 2nd Battalion at 0900.

The 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, had the mission of extending its front lines and also assisting in the attack on MARIAWEILER. At 0730 Company K attacked and advanced north and then east on the town. Heavy resistance was met as Company K reached MARIAWEILER, but was overcome and contact established with Company I at 1100. Company L meanwhile, had extended its left flank from the crossroad at F-081458 to the northeast and closed in with Company K south of the town. At 0700, the 1st Battalion relieved Task Force Pane, 3rd Armored Division, which had cleared the town. Very heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire was received by all units. This fire was generally harassing in effect, while concentrations were received at points of attack.

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13 December

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The 47th Infantry held previous defensive positions protecting the Division left flank and maintained contact with the 115th Infantry (104th Division) on the left. At 0730 Company C moved to positions in the vicinity of P-9715 joining the reinforced platoon which had previously outposted the position. After movement of Company C, Company B withdrew all but one reinforced platoon from the line: P-0924.7 - P-0559.39 and assembled in the vicinity of LUCHET (P-0349) with Company A. The 2nd Battalion remained in reserve in the vicinity of LA GERMELE (P-0347) while the 3rd Battalion occupied an assembly position in the vicinity of CLAIRE (P-0043).

The pocket created by the attack of 12 December was reconnoitered by the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, but no enemy were encountered. Patrols maintained contact with the 39th Infantry on the 329th Infantry on the right. At 2100 the Squadron reverted to control of the 4th Cavalry Group which was attached to the 5th Armored Division.

3rd Armored Division

After the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, was relieved from attachment to Combat Command Howze, the Combat Command was assigned full responsibility for the security of CRUCHET (P-0349). The town was occupied. Later in the period the 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, having reorganized relieved Combat Command Howze and elements of the Command moved back to its former assembly area in the vicinity of LA CHAPELLE (P-9710). There was no change among other units.

104th Infantry Division

Following an artillery TOT and a counter barrage, the 1st Battalion, 413th Infantry, stormed the paper factory at P-0853.2 at dawn, and by 1110 this last strong hold of ST VITH (P-0750) was in our hands. A considerable amount of military supplies including the ammunition dump, bazookas, machine guns, antiaircraft, self-propelled and anti-tank guns were captured. Other units [illegible] previous positions under Company F which moved to LAMBERTS (P-0350).

At 0530 Companies I, L and K, 413th Infantry attacked toward [illegible] (P-0568). Communications [illegible] Company K were lost during the day. This Company was pinned down for almost the entire period in the area southeast of the town. Companies L and K both entered [illegible] proper at 0900 hours. At 1000 Company I also advanced reaching the town but was forced to withdraw due to very intense enemy machine gun fire. Tanks aided [illegible] Company I's withdrawal. This is the finest example in this operation of [illegible] providing close support [illegible]. Later Company I regained the rest of the [illegible] supported by tanks began consolidation operations at 1400. Progress was slow as the enemy resisted strongly and hard house to house fighting was required to clean them out. The last resistance in [illegible] was overcome at 1700 hours. By the close of the period [illegible] town and joined the [illegible]. Another [illegible] Company still remained in the vicinity of the [illegible] end and most southern [illegible] of the town. [illegible] remained in reserve.

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13 December

Artillery

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[illegible]ACK Castle (F-062538) was reduced. South of MARIAWEILER, however, elements of four enemy divisions were able to maintain a foothold west of the River, although BIRGEL (F-0942) and GURZENICH (F-0844) were lost to him. Likewise he was forced to defend at close quarters the village of [illegible] (F-1039) and to yield the high ground in the vicinity of F-0940[illegible], one and a half miles northeast of CEY (F-0739).

Reacting to the reduction of his bridgehead caused by the loss of BIRGEL and GURZENICH, two counter-attacks were launched late in the afternoon to regain the towns. The first at 1530 hours, comprising infantry and six tanks, bogged down when his infantry was dispersed by our artillery fire, and the tanks although able to enter BIRGEL, were forced to withdraw. The second attack at 1900 hours, against GURZENICH was comprised of infantry supported by three to four tanks. Both attacks not only resulted in no gain to the enemy, but also resulted in the loss of four of his tanks. Throughout the areas lost by the enemy during the past two days, his artillery fire has fallen at an increased rate, and many mines were found along his routes of withdrawal.

For the first time since 11 December the weather permitted fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command to support the ground attack of VII Corps troops. Three squadrons of P-47s supported the 5th Armored Division with results reported good to excellent.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 4th Cavalry Group, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): While Combat Command Cole was able to make only small gains against heavy enemy fire, Combat Command Bernier attacked from CEY (F-0739), captured [illegible] (F-0839) and advanced to [illegible] (F-1039).

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, with 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, attached): The 330th and 331st Infantry Regiments advanced to the east and northeast with the latter reaching its objective in the center of the Division zone in the vicinity of F-095406. On the left flank GURZENICH (F-0844) was cleared of enemy and BIRGEL (F-0942) captured.

9th Infantry Division: All enemy organized resistance west of the [illegible] River within the Division zone except on extreme right, was ended when the factory area in the vicinity of F-097467 was cleared.

104th Infantry Division: Eliminated the last enemy resistance west of the [illegible] River [illegible] castle in the vicinity of F-062538 was reduced.

3rd Armored Division: Continued training and reorganization in assembly areas.

1st Infantry Division: Continued training and rehabilitation of personnel in assembly areas in Belgium.

5th Armored Division

Combat Command Cole with the 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached,

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[illegible] December [illegible]

attacked on a 1 kilometer front at 0730 hours toward its initial objective, the woods in the vicinity of F-095385, but made little progress against heavy resistance. The Combat Command advanced only as far as F-085389 - F-[illegible] during the day. Meanwhile Combat Command Regnier attacked from [illegible] (F-0739) at 0925, and after slow steady progress against heavy resistance leading elements advanced to [illegible] (F-0839) where heavy mortar, artillery, anti-tank and small arms fire was received. This strong point was reduced and the Combat Command continued its attack to the east, reaching the edge of [illegible] (F-1039) about dark. Units were deployed on three sides of the town for the night and plans made to renew the attack early 15 December to seize the town.

83rd Infantry Division

While the 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, was operating with Combat Command [illegible], 5th Armored Division, the 3rd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attacked to the northeast from STRASS (F-0739) advancing about 300 yards to gain limited objective by 1045 hours with Company L at F-080396 and the remainder of the battalion holding positions at F-079392 - F-081392. The 1st Battalion remained in the vicinity of SCHAFBERG (F-0738).

Companies [illegible] and [illegible], 331st Infantry, attacked from the vicinity of [illegible] (F-0739) at 0700 hours and by 0830 had reached limited objectives with Company [illegible] at F-[illegible] - F-[illegible] and Company C at F-082403 - F-084401. Company A remained in [illegible]. The 2nd Battalion passed through the right flank [illegible] at 1100 and attacked toward its objective, [illegible] in the vicinity of [illegible] (F-095406). Company [illegible] received heavy concentrations of enemy artillery and mortar fire and progress was slow. Meanwhile Company [illegible] the right flank reduced an enemy strong point in the vicinity of F-088393 and captured about 50 enemy occupying a pillbox. The objective [illegible] was finally reached after an advance of more than 1000 [illegible] positions organized at F-[illegible] - F-[illegible]. The 3rd Battalion remained [illegible] positions at F-071401 - F-074401 with [illegible] - F-[illegible].

[illegible] Infantry, and Company B continued operations [illegible] to clean out remaining enemy resistance there at [illegible] advanced slowly through the town flushing enemy [illegible] forward. Progress was [illegible] heavy enemy mortar and artillery fire. By 1[illegible] Company E had [illegible] (F-1146) road to the [illegible] clearing the town of enemy resistance the 2nd Battalion [illegible] tanks and tank destroyers repulsed an enemy [illegible] Company A remained in the [illegible].

[illegible] Battalion, [illegible] Infantry, moved to positions [illegible] (F-[illegible]) [illegible] attack [illegible] passed through [illegible] at 1[illegible] [illegible] the left [illegible] the assault [illegible] the assault [illegible]

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100 prisoners taken to swell the number of enemy captured by the Division during the period to about 450.

9th Infantry Division

Elements of the 39th Infantry held the same positions as at the close of the previous period with the 3rd Battalion in the vicinity of DERICHSWEILER (F-0745), the 2nd Battalion in the vicinity of SCHLICH (F-0545) and the 1st Battalion deployed as follows: Company A, F-054439; Company B, F-058442; Company C, F-049453. All positions were improved and contact maintained with adjacent units by patrols.

During the morning the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry conducted extensive reconnaissance in preparation for the attack to clean out remaining enemy in the factory area southeast of MARIAWEILER (F-0947). At 1300 Company I attacked this area and made good progress against heavy resistance, taking a number of prisoners. By 1610 the objective was taken. In this action well coordinated tank and tank destroyer support by elements of the 899th Tank Destroyer and 746th Tank Battalion, enabled the infantry to advance with a minimum of loss. Defensive positions were organized on the objective. Upon receiving a report that the 83rd Division had cleared GURZENICH (F-0844) patrols were sent to make contact with the 329th Infantry and to clean out the area between the line of the 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry, and GURZENICH. A platoon of Company L moving southeast was stopped short of GURZENICH and unable to establish contact due to heavy artillery and small arms fire. The 1st Battalion, 60th Infantry, remained in HOVEN (F-0848) with Company C in BOMZ (F-0748) and the 2nd Battalion in MARIAWEILER (F-0947).

The 47th Infantry protected the Division left flank and maintained contact with the 415th Infantry (104th Division) on the left. During the morning, positions held by a reinforced platoon of Company E along the line of trenches running south from the lake east of LUCHEM (F-0349) were vacated. At 1800 Company B relieved Company C of outpost positions extending across the AUTOBAHN south to the vicinity of BOMZ (F-0748). Company C withdrew to the vicinity of LUCHEM, and patrolled between Companies A and B during darkness. The 2nd Battalion remained in LANGERWEHE (F-0347) and conducted limited training. The 3rd Battalion was assembled in the vicinity of MERKSTEIN (F-0043) prepared to move against any enemy penetration on the right flank, and conducted training.

104th Infantry Division

Both the 415th and 413th Infantry Regiments remained in the same locations as at the close of the previous day. At 1500 one platoon of Company F, 414th Infantry, supported by 5 tanks attacked and secured HULFARTH, (F-0453) thus eliminating the last enemy resistance in the Division area west of the RUR River. At 1600 Company C relieved Company C at PIER (F-0552), and at 2200 Company B relieved elements of the 3rd Battalion at SCHOPHOVEN (F-0554). Elements of the 1st Battalion remained in INDEN (F-0252) with Company C moving to RUTZLOHN (F-9951). Other elements of the 2nd Battalion also held positions in INDEN while the 3rd Battalion was in the south of the town in the vicinity of F-027517.

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Since the start of the present offensive on 16 November, the 104th Infantry Division announced that it had penetrated approximately 12 miles into Germany, secured approximately 60 square miles of enemy terrority, and in the past 22 days seized 26 cities, towns, and communities, making a total of 69 inhabited places captured by the Division.

Artillery

9th Division: Fired 58 missions as follows: 6 preparation, 3 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 9 close support, 15 counterbattery, 14 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1072.

83rd Division: Fired 142 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 14 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 5 close support, 2 counterbattery, 68 interdiction and harassing, and 48 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2396.

104th Division: Fired 42 missions as follows: 5 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 2 counterbattery, 22 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 452.

5th Armored Division: Fired 113 missions as follows: 9 preparation, 24 personnel, 26 mortar and machine gun, 12 counterbattery, 2 tank, 29 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3450.

Corps: Fired 82 missions as follows: 1 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 15 close support, 34 counterbattery, 27 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1454.

1st Division and 3rd Armored Division Artilleries did not fire during the period.

Antiaircraft: No action was reported against enemy aircraft for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 by the 109th AAA Gp. The 116th AAA Gun Bn fired 3 missions in support of VII Corps Arty; two on withdrawing enemy troops and the other on enemy AT gun positions. A total of 200 rounds of 90mm ammunition indirect fire was expended.

Tank Destroyers: The 629th TD Bn expended 18 rounds of 3" HE, 1 round of 3" APC, and 265 rounds of calibre .50 HE direct fire on enemy strong points and infantry. The 692nd TD Bn fired 743 rounds of 3" HERC on 68 harassing missions and 32 rounds of 3" HERC on 3 registrations, all indirect fire, and 13 rounds of 3" APC and 30 rounds HE both direct fire on enemy strong points. Interdiction missions were fired by the 899th TD Bn which expended 168 rounds of HERC indirect fire on 6 missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 582.

15 DECEMBER 1944

In the southern half of the Corps zone of action leading elements of our right flank units reached the RUR River as [illegible] (F-1039), BERGHEIM (F-1038), BERZBUIR (F-1041) were captured and HILL 211 (F-112395) was seized. Units in the northern part of the Corps zone continued to patrol

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along the west bank of the RUR River. During the day 279 prisoners were captured to bring the total to over 3050 taken by the Corps since the present limited objective attack was launched on 10 December.

Enemy resistance progressively decreased during the period as our forces continued to constrict the enemy's bridgehead west of the RUR. North of MARIAWEILER (F-0947) elements of the 104th and 115th Regiments of the old 47th Volksgrenadier Division (now listed as the 12th Volksgrenadier Division by the enemy) were left to block the western approaches to DUREN (F-1146). Having lost the high ground in the vicinity of F-095406 during the previous period, the enemy was unable to hold BERZBUIR and KUFFERATH, although the latter was defended by self-propelled guns and 4 tanks. Likewise the enemy lost the high ground along the west bank of the RUR opposite KREUZAU (F-1139) which resulted in the splitting of his bridgehead. BERGHEIM was also lost by him after its garrison failed to defend it with small arms and anti-tank gun fire.

One squadron of fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command provided close support for the 5th Armored Division during the day's operations.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 4th Cavalry Group, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): Combat Command Regnier mopped up in KUFFERATH (F-1039), clearing the town by 0900. Other elements of the Combat Command advanced against generally light resistance to the RUR River and seized HILL 211 (F-112395). Combat Command Cole seized and cleared the town of BERGHEIM (F-1038).

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, with 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, attached): Captured BERZBUIR (F-1040), consolidated positions on HILL 215 (F-095406) and moved elements to HILL 211 (F-112396), joining Combat Command Regnier, 5th Armored Division, which had taken this commanding ground earlier in the day. Units on the left flank of the Division consolidated positions previously gained.

9th Infantry Division: Consolidated positions, maintained patrols along the west bank of the RUR River, and conducted training and rehabilitation of personnel.

104th Infantry Division: Consolidated positions, maintained patrols along the west bank of the RUR River, and conducted training and rehabilitation of personnel.

3rd Armored Division: Continued training and rehabilitation of personnel.

1st Infantry Division: Continued training and rehabilitation of personnel.

5th Armored Division

Combat Command Cole with the 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached, attacked at 0800 hours, reached its initial objective (F-0938) at 0900 and cleared the woods by 1130. The attack was continued with BERGHEIM (F-1038) being seized and cleared against enemy resistance composed of self-propelled

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gun, bazooka, and small arms fire. Positions were consolidated at F-104389 - F-103383. The 4th Cavalry Group elements protected the right flank against light resistance and held defensive positions from F-098383 to F-067374.

Meanwhile Combat Command Regnier attacked KUFFERATH (F-1039) at 0730 hours and by 0900 had cleared the town of enemy resistance. Company B, 331st Infantry, moved in to take over the responsibility for the security of KUFFERATH, and the Combat Command continued the attack toward its final objective, the wooded ridge of HILL 211 (F-112395). Other elements of the Command had previously smashed their way to the RUR River and at the close of the period positions were being consolidated by Combat Command Regnier at F-113397 - F-113395 - F-111391.

83rd Infantry Division

While the 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, was operating under attachment to Combat Command Cole, 5th Armored Division, and assisted the Combat Command in the seizure and occupation of BERGHEIM (F-1038), the 1st and 3rd Battalions moved to assembly positions in Division Reserve. The 1st Battalion moved from positions at SCHAFBERG (F-0738) to an area between GEY (F-0739) and GROSSHAU (F-0538) in the vicinity of F-059390 and the 3rd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of F-047388.

The 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, attacked at 0800 hours to clean up enemy resistance remaining in the vicinity of HILL 215 (F-095406). By 1050 the Hill was completely cleared of all enemy and defenses organized. From this commanding ground the Battalion then attacked to the northeast to capture its next objective, BERGBUIR (F-1041). Strong patrols were sent out at 1200 to determine the enemy strength in the town. However, the patrols were stopped by heavy fire from the enemy's entrenched positions 200 yards from BERGBUIR. When the Battalion later moved against the town the enemy was unable to maintain his entrenchments, and BERGBUIR was occupied against generally light resistance, although artillery fire in this area was heavy. The 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, moved to HILL 211 (F-112396), joining Combat Command Regnier, 5th Armored Division, which had captured the Hill earlier in the day. The 1st Battalion held the same positions as the previous period, except Company B in KUFFERATH (F-1040).

Positions gained the previous period on the left flank of the Division, were consolidated by the 329th Infantry. The 1st Battalion improved its defenses in the vicinity of BIRGEL (F-0942) except for Company B which was attached to the 2nd Battalion at 1730 and moved to defensive positions in BURGERICH (F-0844). The 2nd Battalion regrouped and remained in positions in BURGERICH. Small groups of enemy were cleaned out by the 3rd Battalion to the south of BIRGEL in the vicinity of F-0942.

The 83rd Division reported that including prisoners taken during the day that over 1,000 prisoners of war had been captured by them since the start of the operation on 10 December.

9th Infantry Division

Plans of the 39th Infantry to clear the extreme right flank of the

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Division to the RUR River were held up pending the advance of the 329th Infantry (83rd Division) on the right and finally cancelled for the day. Patrols were active to the front over the contemplated route of advance to determine the condition and suitability for the passage of armor. Contact was maintained with adjacent units. The 60th Infantry patrolled to the west bank of the RUR with the mission of securing the river line against enemy raids, infiltration, and minelaying. No enemy were encountered. The 47th Infantry remained in previous positions and protected the Division left flank.

104th Infantry Division

Patrols were active along the 5000 yard front of the Division on the west bank of the RUR River as progress in reconnaissance and future planning was continued. The only change in the disposition of troops was the move of the 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, from INDEN (F-0252) to ESCHWEILER (L-9647).

Artillery

9th Division: Fired 59 missions as follows: 5 preparation, 3 personnel, 1 close support, 26 counterbattery, 17 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1157.

83rd Division: Fired 121 missions as follows: 15 personnel, 17 close support, 3 counterbattery, 1 tank, 48 interdiction and harassing, and 37 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2414.

104th Division: Fired 58 missions as follows: 3 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 3 counterbattery, 38 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 550.

5th Armored Division: Fired 130 missions as follows: 7 preparation, 19 personnel, 18 mortar and machine gun, 16 counterbattery, 1 tank, 59 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2620.

Corps: Fired 72 missions as follows: 2 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 6 close support, 28 counterbattery, 2 tank, 21 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2085.

1st Division and 3rd Armored Division did not fire during the period.

Antiaircraft: The 438th AAA AW Bn engaged a single ME-109 apparently on a reconnaissance mission at 1348 and destroyed it. At 1358 the 453rd AAA AW Bn with the 83rd Div engaged an ME-109 and claimed it was probably destroyed.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 279.

16 DECEMBER 1944

Right flank elements continued to clean up enemy resistance in the southern part of the Corps zone of action, advancing to the RUR River in

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the vicinity of P-108371, clearing HERZBUIR (P-1040) of all enemy, and capturing BILSTEIN (P-1037). Units on the left flank and in the center of the Corps zone held positions, regrouped, patrolled along the River, and repulsed a small counter-attack of enemy infantry which crossed the RUR to make the attack early in the morning.

After heavy artillery fire had fallen on HARLEMMER (P-0947) and HOVEN (P-0848) for an hour, one officer and sixty men from the 3rd Company, 103rd Regiment, 47th Volksgrenadier Division, crossed the RUR River and, at 0630 hours, attacked from the southeast toward HARLEMMER with the mission of retaking the village. Within an hour the attackers had withdrawn without reaching their objective. However, at 0821, between 100-150 infantry from the 115th Regiment, 47th Volksgrenadier Division, supported by four to five self-propelled guns, and following an artillery preparation, attacked GHRZENICH (P-0844) from the northeast. Caught by heavy artillery fire, the enemy, unable to continue toward the original objective, turned due south toward BIRGEL (P-0942). Again the force was dispersed by artillery fire and the attack failed to materialize.

Further south, the enemy, by 1200, had ceded BILSTEIN and the ground southeast to the River after offering light resistance. During the afternoon and night up to the close of the period, no further action was taken by the enemy other than to shell sporadically our lines and to boat the forward areas of the Corps under the cover of darkness. Heavy losses were imposed on the Luffwaffe by Corps Antiaircraft Artillery.

South of VII Corps right flank boundary, on the southern flank of V Corps and the northern flank of VIII Corps the build up of a major enemy counter-attack developed with the 18th, 26th, 62nd, 89th, 212th, 272nd, 276th, 277th, 352nd and 560th Infantry Divisions, 1st, 2nd, 12th SS Panzer Divisions, 116th Panzer Division, and 5th Parachute Division being identified, and having achieved a penetration of our very thinly held lines.

Broken clouds with scattered showers made visibility too poor to permit fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command to furnish close support for ground troops of the VII Corps.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 4th Cavalry Group, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): Combat Command Cole continued the attack, moving rapidly to the RUR River, capturing BILSTEIN (P-1037). Combat Command Reznier relieved 3rd Battalion, 329th Infantry, on Hill 311 (P-113795). The 4th Cavalry Group continued to defend the right flank.

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, with 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, attached): Completely cleared HERZBUIR (P-1040), repulsed two enemy counter-attacks, and regrouped elements.

9th Infantry Division: Continued to patrol along the west bank of the RUR, consolidated positions, and conducted training of personnel.

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104th Infantry Division: Continued to patrol along the west bank of the RUR, consolidated positions, and conducted training of personnel.

3rd Armored Division: Combat Command Hickey was ordered by Commanding General VII Corps to be prepared to move on 6 hours' alert, effective 1330. All units remained in assembly areas and continued training.

1st Infantry Division: Was also placed on 6 hours' alert status. At 2400 the 26th Regimental Combat Team was detached from the Division and VII Corps, and attached to V Corps, directed to move to CAMP ELSENBORN (K-9008) as soon as possible. Units continued training.

6th Belgian Fusilier Battalion (less Companies 4 and 5): Were attached to 1st Tank Destroyer Group (operating as anti-airborne section, VII Corps) assigned security mission of rear areas and operating as counter-intelligence screen along Corps rear boundary.

5th Armored Division

Combat Command Cole with the 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached, attacked early in the morning to reach the RUR River in the vicinity of HOCHKIRCHEN (F-1037) and by 0830 had reached its objective, meeting little resistance in advancing to the south. Positions were organized in the vicinity of F-108374. Meanwhile other elements (15th Armored Infantry Battalion) attacked BILSTEIN (F-1037) and encountered only light resistance in clearing the enemy from the town by 1720 hours.

The 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry (83rd Inf Div), was relieved of holding defensive positions in the vicinity of HILL 211 (F-113395) by Combat Command Regnier. Units of the Combat Command regrouped and prepared to attack WINDEN (F-1138).

83rd Infantry Division

Companies L and K, 331st Infantry, were relieved by Combat Command Regnier, 5th Armored Division, of defensive positions on HILL 211 (F-112-395) and moved to join the remainder of the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, in the vicinity of KUPPERATH (F-1039). BERGHEIR (F-1041) was cleared of enemy by 1000 hours by the 2nd Battalion. Companies E and F moved into the town and secured it while Company G held HILL 215 (F-095106). Company A remained in GEY (F-0739), Company B to the east of that town at F-084101, while Company C blocked the GEY - BERGEL (F-0942) Road in the vicinity of F-089115.

At 0700 the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, with Company E, was counter-attacked in GURZENICH (F-0844) from the north, but the attack was repulsed. However, the positions of Company E were attacked by the enemy again at about 0915. At the same time enemy tank supported infantry attacked Company G and unsupported infantry attacked Company F. These counter-attacks were launched across the open ground between GURZENICH and ROLSDORF (F-1043). Our artillery fire was very effectively employed to disperse the attackers and all efforts of the enemy to regain lost ground proved unsuccessful.

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The 3rd Battalion resumed the attack against enemy occupying positions in the southern edge of BIRGEL and by 1245 Company I succeeded in driving the enemy out of the remainder of the town. The enemy was also cleared from the wooded area from the road (F-071419 - F-079412) southwest to the road (F-064425 - F-068403). The remainder of the 1st Battalion continued to hold positions in the vicinity of WEYERHOF (F-0843).

Both the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry, which had withdrawn to reserve positions in assembly areas in the vicinity of F-058388 and F-048388, respectively, the previous day, regrouped. The 2nd Battalion remained attached to Combat Command Cole, 5th Armored Division.

9th Infantry Division

Elements of the 39th Infantry remained in position along the Regimental front, patrolling and maintaining contact with adjacent units. The 60th Infantry in the center of the Division zone was counter-attacked at 0600 between the positions held by Companies I and K (vicinity of F-098-468) by about 130 enemy infantry supported by artillery and mortars. The attack was repulsed with our own artillery and mortar fire, and by 0900 the entire area was reported clear. Patrolling was continued along the RUR River. On the left flank the 47th Infantry continued to hold defensive positions and protect the flank. Company B was relieved of positions in the vicinity of F-071490 by the 9th Reconnaissance Troop, and assembled at F-013480, southwest of WEISWEILER (F-0048). At 1700 the 1st and 2nd Battalions were alerted for possible movement on short notice. Training was conducted by these two units in the vicinity of LANGERWEHE (F-0347) and HILL 232 (K-9944), respectively.

104th Infantry Division

Elements of the 415th and 414th Infantry Regiments continued to vigorously patrol the west bank of the RUR River while the 413th Infantry remained in reserve. Preparations were continued for future operations. There was no change in the disposition of any units.

Artillery

9th Division: Fired 46 missions as follows: 8 preparation, 19 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 8 counterbattery, 6 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1345.

83rd Division: Fired 138 missions as follows: 19 preparation, 10 personnel, 14 mortar and machine gun, 6 close support, 30 counterbattery, 27 interdiction and harassing, and 32 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2900.

104th Division: Fired 37 missions as follows: 4 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 4 counterbattery, 14 interdiction and harassing, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 623.

5th Armored Division: Fired 85 missions as follows: 15 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 28 counterbattery, 28 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2453.

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Corps: Fired 109 missions as follows: 2 personnel, 3 close support, 50 counterbattery, 36 interdiction and harassing, and 18 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2435.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600. Btry B, 116th AAA Gun Bn, fired TA missions in support of Corps Arty on 6 concentrations of enemy Arty and AT positions, expending 150 rounds of 90mm ammunition indirect fire.

Tank Destroyers: 629th TD Bn expended 7 rounds of illuminating shell 3" to illuminate a bridge across the RUR River, fired 24 rounds of 3" HE and 5 rounds of 3" APC assault fire (direct fire) destroying 1 CP and 1 MG, killing 15 and capturing 28 of the enemy. The 635th TD Bn expended 20 rounds of 3" HEPC indirect fire on harassing missions. The 692nd TD Bn expended 206 rounds of 3" HEPC indirect fire on 8 interdiction and 11 harassing missions. 10 interdiction missions were fired by the 899th TD Bn with an expenditure of 150 rounds HEPC indirect fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 247.

17 DECEMBER 1944

Right flank elements of the Corps continued the advance to clear the enemy from the west bank of the RUR River, capturing and clearing LENDERSDORF (F-1141) and BOLSDORF (F-1043), taking several hundred prisoners. Other units continued to patrol the west bank of the RUR between SCHOPHOVEN (F-0553) and MARIAWEILER (F-0947) where all enemy resistance had ceased several days ago.

However, the highlight of both the opening and closing hours of the period was the enemy air activity. The German Air Force put up their first great offensive operation against American ground forces in Western Europe in support of their counter-attack to the south which had achieved a major penetration between the south flank of V Corps and the north flank of VIII Corps.

An estimated force of 100 German airplanes dropped flares, bombs and did some strafing during the hours of darkness. Some enemy paratroopers fell to earth within the Corps zone. While a number dropped after their craft had been hit by our antiaircraft fire, others, according to interrogation of captured parachutists, had the mission of assembling at road junction (F-8016) and to hold this junction for a minimum of two days. By that time an enemy breakthrough in the area was to be effected by three SS Divisions (1st, 2nd, and 12th SS Panzer Divisions). G-2 reported that the enemy believed that this road junction connecting the towns of EUPEN (F-8027), MALMEDY (F-7804), and WAIMES (F-6703) would prevent three U.S. Divisions located in these towns to come to the aid of the attacked forces. The parachutists belonged to Combat Group Von Der Heydte which was composed of three rifle and one heavy weapons companies.

A total of 46 enemy paratroopers were accounted for in VII Corps area. According to the 1st Tank Destroyer Group, operating as VII Corps antiairborne section, 16 were killed, 1 wounded and 29 taken prisoner. Armed

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by the G-3 section at 0033 hours of the imminence of parachute landings, the Group had alerted all areas by 0403 of the possibility of landings.

Starting at 0345 one JU-52 dropped paratroopers of the Machine Gun Company of Combat Group Von Der Heydte in the vicinity of [illegible] (K-[illegible]), while two planes carrying other members of the same company crashed in the vicinity northeast of ESCHWEILER (K-9647). These paratroopers were unable to organize and reach their rendezvous before being captured.

During the period very heavy damage was inflicted on enemy planes by our Antiaircraft Artillery, particularly by our radar controlled 90mm guns, with a total of 25 enemy planes shot down and 6 more probably destroyed.

Enemy ground forces within VII Corps zone continued to stubbornly defend the western approaches to DUREN (F-1146) with machine gun, small arms and anti-tank fire from their pocket west of the RUR River. Further south the enemy ceded most of the village of [illegible] after house to house fighting, and also vacated the river town of [illegible]. Throughout the period the enemy's artillery fire was light and scattered over the front, and with the coming of darkness his air activity again increased when planes resumed their bombing and strafing of rear installations.

Close support missions for Corps troops by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command were not possible due to unfavorable weather and the large number of enemy aircraft in the vicinity.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 4th Cavalry Group, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): All positions were defended with no change in disposition of units. Enemy contact was very light with only sporadic artillery and mortar fire.

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, with 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop [illegible], attached): Captured and cleared the enemy from [illegible] (F-1141) and [illegible] (F-1043).

9th Infantry Division: Light flank elements attack to eliminate last remaining enemy from the Division zone in the vicinity of F-1045 and made some gains against the pocket defending the western approaches to [illegible] (F-1146). At 1100 hours the 47th Regimental Combat Team was attached to V Corps and moved to the vicinity of [illegible] (K-[illegible]).

104th Infantry Division: Continued to patrol the east bank of the RUR River within the Division zone.

3rd Armored Division: In addition to Combat Command Hickey remaining on a 6 hours' alert status, the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion and one armored infantry battalion were placed on a one hour alert for possible action against enemy paratroopers. Units remained in assembly areas and continued training.

1st Infantry Division (less Regimental Combat Team 26, attached to [illegible] Corps): Remainder of Division was attached to [illegible] at 1100 hours, and

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began movement to the south to V Corps area.

5th Armored Division

Positions throughout the Division area were consolidated, defenses strengthened, road blocks, traffic check points, and listening posts established, and active patrolling maintained. A search was made of the Division area for enemy paratroopers and all units alerted against increased enemy air activity. There was no change in the disposition of any units.

83rd Infantry Division

After night patrols had reconnoitered to within several hundred yards of the town, the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, attacked LENDERSDORF (F-1141) at 0700 hours. Company L on the right and Company I on the left advanced to the western edge of the town by 0800. Enemy resistance was comprised of small arms, artillery, anti-tank, and direct tank fire. Two supporting tanks, moving into the town with the attacking infantry, were knocked out by enemy anti-tank fire from across the RUR River. By 1800 hours the 3rd Battalion had completed clearing all enemy resistance from the town. Other units of the Regiment held the same positions as at the end of the previous period.

At 0730 the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 329th Infantry, attacked to reach the west bank of the RUR in the vicinity of F-1045, and to capture the southern part of BOLSDORF (F-1043), respectively, while the 1st Battalion attacked BOLSDORF at 0740 hours. Company K made the principal initial effort of the 3rd Battalion on the right of the Regimental zone. When about 600 yards from the southern part of BOLSDORF, the Company was held up by an 88mm gun in the vicinity of F-105436. This enemy gun was knocked out by mortar fire, and later as Company K neared the outskirts of BOLSDORF an enemy tank fired on it from the vicinity of F-103439. A supporting anti-tank gun, firing from the vicinity of BIRGEL (F-0942), knocked out the enemy tank, and the advance continued to F-107436.

Meanwhile Companies B and C assaulted the town from the northwest and west, entering BOLSDORF at 0900 against small arms fire, and during the remainder of the day the Battalion mopped up enemy resistance and consolidated positions with Companies B and C within the town and Company A on the northern outskirts. The advance of the 2nd Battalion was slow because of intense small arms fire from buildings along the road. Companies E and F, the leading elements, reached the line of F-100454 - F-104450.

Both the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry, continued to remain in reserve, occupying the same positions as at the close of the previous period, while the 2nd Battalion was still attached to Combat Command Cole of the 5th Armored Division. Although a thorough search was made of the Division area for enemy paratroopers none were located. Over 100 prisoners were captured during the day.

9th Infantry Division

Company K, 39th Infantry, attached at 0800 in conjunction with the 329th Infantry (83rd Division) on the right to clear the area with the

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Division zone to the river line in the vicinity of F-1045. Intense small arms, mortar and artillery fire was met. After being screened by smoke, Company K advanced slightly and cleaned out several enemy pockets. At 1440 the Company was still engaged in heavy fighting and receiving enemy fire in its rear from south of the railroad tracks. This resistance was eventually reduced in conjunction with the 329th Infantry, and by dark defensive positions were organized at F-098454 - F-098450.

Upon attachment of the 47th Regimental Combat Team to V Corps, the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry, moved to the vicinity of LANGERWEHE (F-0347) in Division Reserve, closing in area at 1925 with the missions of supporting forward elements and protecting Division left flank. The 2nd Battalion remained in SCHLICH (F-0545). The 47th Regimental Combat Team which had been placed on a 3 hours' alert at 1100 was attached to V Corps at 1145 and ordered to proceed immediately to the vicinity of EUPEN (K-8027). The Combat Team entrucked and moved out at 1400 and at 2355 was reported assembled in the vicinity of EUPEN. The 9th Reconnaissance Troop assembled at NOTHBERG (K-0846) in Division Reserve.

During the early morning hours patrols of the 60th Infantry returned from reconnaissance across the RUR River, having secured information on the slope of the opposite bank, crossing sites and approaches, and condition of the stream. The 3rd Battalion supported the attack of Company K, 39th Infantry, with fire, maintaining close liaison throughout the day and operating contact patrols after dark.

Intense enemy air activity was experienced throughout the Division zone, and a few casualties resulted from bombing and strafing attacks. At 0425 units were alerted against airborne attack, and at daylight patrolling was initiated to determine the presence of enemy parachutists. Anti-airborne defensive measures, including patrols, check points, and road blocks, were maintained during the remainder of the period.

104th Infantry Division

Reconnaissance was continued along the RUR River line. All units were alerted for possible airborne attack, and a systematic search was conducted for enemy paratroopers with 8 being captured including a pilot who was shot down by Antiaircraft fire. There was no change in the locations of units.

3rd Armored Division

In order to prevent the movement and assembly of hostile parachutists which might be dropped in the Division area, Combat Commands Hickey and [illegible] Division Reserve established road blocks and check points throughout the Division zone. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion patrolled all roads in the Division area during daylight hours and established [illegible] to fill in between road blocks and check points during [illegible]. Combat Command Hickey which had been placed on 6 hours' alert status [illegible] reconnaissance to the south. The 2nd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment was placed on a one hour alert for anti-airborne defense. Units also continued training in assembly areas without change in disposition of troops.

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17 December

Artillery

9th Division: Fired 42 missions as follows: 3 preparation, 1 mortar and machine gun, 14 close support, 7 counterbattery, 2 tank, 8 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1313.

83rd Division: Fired 104 missions as follows: 11 personnel, 19 close support, 15 counterbattery, 41 interdiction and harassing, and 18 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2501.

104th Division: Fired 50 missions as follows: 10 personnel, 7 mortar and machine gun, 6 counterbattery, 23 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 501.

5th Armored Division: Fired 87 missions as follows: 30 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 17 counterbattery, 31 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2570.

Corps: Fired 63 missions as follows: 4 personnel, 2 close support, 21 counterbattery, 31 interdiction and harassing, 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1816.

3rd Armored Division Artillery did not fire during the period. The 1st Division Artillery accompanied the Division when it moved to V Corps sector.

Six Corps Artillery cub aircraft were used 17 December to search the Corps rear area for signs of enemy paratroop activity. 20 personnel parachutes and 3 equipment parachutes were spotted and reported. Engineers of Btry C, 189th FA Bn saw 8 enemy paratroopers descend east of their position at 0400. At 0525 the attached AAA unit saw 4 more parachutes, and a searching party, that was organized, captured 3 paratroopers and found 2 equipment containers of mortar ammunition.

Antiaircraft (for 24 hour period ending at 170600): Between 0000 hours and 0510 approximately 27 enemy planes (ME-109's, ME-110's, JU-88's, and HS-111's) were engaged by the 114th AAA Gun Bn in 26 raids (estimate of planes is based on number of planes tracked by radar) which bombed, strafed, and dropped paratroops. 12 planes were claimed destroyed and 5 probably destroyed by .50 cal gun fire. One enemy bomber was claimed destroyed by the 555th AAA AW Bn with the 104th Division at 0230, and 5 others were claimed probably destroyed by the 387th AAA AW Bn (-) with the 5th Armored Division.

Btry I, 114th AAA Gun Bn fired 5 separate fires on enemy artillery concentrations in support of VII Corps Artillery, expending 240 rounds of unobserved 90mm ammunition.

Tank Destroyers: An enemy 88mm AT gun was destroyed, 6 huts and 11 strong points neutralized by the 628th TD Bn in which expended 149 rounds of 3" APC and 109 rounds of 3" HE casualty fire (direct fire). The 630th TD Bn expended 58 rounds of 3" HEMP direct fire on 3 interdiction missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 1264.

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19 DECEMBER 1944

In an effort to counter the breakthrough which the enemy had achieved against the First U.S. Army south of VII Corps, a considerable change was made in the boundaries and attachments of the Corps during the day. The VII Corps boundary was enlarged, taking over a portion of the V Corps area to the south together with the 8th Infantry Division, 78th Infantry Division, Combat Command Anderson, 5th Armored Division, and the 102nd Cavalry Group. The remainder of the 9th Infantry Division, less Regimental Combat Team 60, and Combat Command Hickey, 3rd Armored Division were dispatched to V Corps area to help stem the German attack. The new VII-V Corps boundary enlarged our front by approximately 18 kilometers, running from K-820275 (rear) to F-020200 (RUR River). This change was effective at 1500 hours.

During the period the 9th and 83rd Infantry Divisions completed clearing all remaining enemy resistance from their zones west of the RUR River and the 78th Infantry Division repelled a counter-attack in the vicinity of KESTERNICH (F-0024).

The enemy continued his air activity, employing planes in small groups, from the beginning of the period until well after daylight. Bombing and strafing raids, carried out during darkness against targets previously illuminated by flares, characterized the action. At least another plane load of paratroopers was dropped within the Corps area. During the morning between the hours of 0900 and 1320 an estimated 140 planes entered the Corps area. Again the enemy found his raids over the Corps area costly due to the effective fire of our Antiaircraft Artillery with 31 planes destroyed and 14 more probably destroyed during the period.

Along the west bank of the RUR River the enemy was forced to cede everything from KREUZAU (F-1139) north to the Corps boundary, when elements of the 103rd Regiment, 47th Volksgrenadier Division, were forced from their defensive positions guarding the approaches to DUREN (F-1146). Likewise the enemy was forced to yield that portion of ROLSDORF (F-1044) which he had held the previous period. From the east bank of the RUR he twice laid down smoke screens; one in the center of DUREN and the other from the northern edge of that city to the vicinity of ROLSDORF. This action was followed by the blowing of the bridges at F-109452 and F-118427 between JUNGKUNICH (F-0641) and DUREN, and between LENDERSDORF (F-1141) and NIEDERAU (F-1241). At 1619, 40 to 50 men of the 753rd Regiment, 326th Volksgrenadier Division, began a counter-attack from the east against KESTERNICH (F-0024), but before the enemy had gained ground he was dispersed by our artillery.

Unfavorable weather prohibited fighter-bomber support.

78th Infantry Division (less 311th Infantry, with 102nd Cavalry Group, Combat Command Anderson of 5th Armored Division, 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry, and 2nd Ranger Battalion, attached): Was attached to VII Corps at 1500. Held all positions repelling a small counter-attack in the vicinity of KESTERNICH (F-0024).

8th Infantry Division: (less 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry, with 311th Infantry, attached): Held all positions. 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry,

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was attached to Combat Command Anderson of 5th Armored Division, which was attached to 78th Infantry Division.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 4th Cavalry Group, and 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): Defended all positions with only light enemy contact.

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry): Cleared all remaining enemy resistance west of the RUR from the Division zone, taking over 300 prisoners.

9th Infantry Division (less 47th Regimental Combat Team, previously attached to V Corps): Cleared all remaining enemy resistance from the Division zone west of the RUR River. Effective at 2400 all remaining elements of the Division, less 60th Regimental Combat Team, were attached to V Corps.

104th Infantry Division: Continued to patrol west bank of RUR River within Division zone. Effective 2400 the Division assumed responsibility for the zone of the 9th Infantry Division as well as its own with the 60th Regimental Combat Team being attached.

3rd Armored Division (less Combat Command Hickey): Continued training of personnel in assembly areas. Effective 1200 Combat Command Hickey was attached to V Corps. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, and one Armored Infantry Battalion, remained on a one-hour alert against enemy airborne landings.

78th Infantry Division

Ordered to defend at all costs the road center at ENTENPFUHL (K-9[illegible]232) against enemy seizure, the Division assumed a defensive role, and, augmented by the attachment of Combat Command Anderson, 5th Armored Division, and 102nd Cavalry Group, prepared to hold defensive positions. Units remained alert for the possibility of additional enemy airborne landings and continued to search for parachutists. Shortly after 1600 the enemy launched a counter-attack against the 310th Infantry in the vicinity of KESTERNICH (F-0024), which was repulsed by our artillery fire before it had gained any ground.

Locations of units at the close of the period were as follows: 2nd Ranger Battalion, K-979237 - K-985237 - K-992210; 309th Infantry, Company K, K-979237 - K-971244, Company L, K-998241 - K-995239, Company I, F-002246 - F-001243, 1st Battalion, F-001243 - K-998241, 2nd Battalion, F-002246 - K-998241; 310th Infantry, 2nd Battalion, K-995239 - K-991237, K-989252, 1st Battalion, Company C, K-990241 - K-992248, remainder of 1st Battalion, K-992250 - K-989252 - K-996263, 3rd Battalion, F-999270 - K-995278; Combat Command Anderson, with 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry, attached, ROTGEM (K-9028).

9th Infantry Division

All previous defensive positions were held by the Division as follows:

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311th Infantry, all 3 Battalions on line w/1st Battalion at F-019305 - F-004304, 2nd Battalion at F-038316 - F-029313, 3rd Battalion at F-049325 - F-045314 - F-040316 and 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry, which was attached at F-007317; 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry, held defensive positions at F-063333 - F-050328; 3rd Battalion, 13th Infantry, at F-088335 - F-084336 - F-078332; 121st Infantry, Company A, at F-064360 - F-068360, Company E, F-080346 - F-083343, Company G, F-076350 - F-079352, and Company F, F-069356 - F-074356. The remainder of the 1st Battalion, 121st Infantry, remained assembled at F-069350 as did the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry at F-019329. Reserves were the 3rd Battalion, 28th Infantry and 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry.

5th Armored Division

The Division maintained the same defensive positions as were held by Combat Commands Regnier and Cole the previous day. Road blocks were improved and listening posts and check points maintained throughout the Division sector. The entire area was searched for enemy paratroopers while the 4th Cavalry Group continued to patrol and screen the right flank. Effective at 0800 the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, less Troop A, reverted to Group control.

83rd Infantry Division

Two platoons of Company A, 329th Infantry, advanced northeast along the DUREN (F-1116) Road during the morning, meeting only light resistance and at 0900 seized the western end of the bridge at F-111449 and the factory at F-018440. A 12 man patrol reconnoitered across the RUR River. At 0730 the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, resumed the attack east toward the RUR, and by 1000 Companies G and F had reached the final objective along the River south of the railroad in the vicinity of F-1045. Company E relieved Company K, 329th Infantry late in the period with the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, organizing positions at F-101464 - F-107451. Company L moved from BIRGEL (F-0842) to the small group of houses south of ROLSDORF (F-1044) against light resistance, sweeping the buildings for enemy and took up positions at F-109432.

All units of the 331st Infantry maintained previously held positions which were improved and a number of minefields laid. The only other change in the location of units was the 3rd Battalion, 330th Infantry which moved to a new assembly area in the vicinity of F-050390. During the day the Division captured 337 of the 417 prisoners taken by the Corps. Since the 83rd Division took over the zone of the 4th Division on 7 December generally along the line: F-062377 - F-050434 and launched its coordinated attack with other units of the Corps three days later, it advanced to the RUR River clearing all the enemy in its zone and taking 1837 prisoners. During the 24 hour period ending at 2400, 18 December, the 453rd Antiaircraft Artillery (Automatic Weapons) Battalion with the Division claimed 29 enemy planes shot down.

9th Infantry Division

Company K, 39th Infantry, attacked at 0900, in conjunction with the

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331th Infantry, all 3 Battalions on line w/1st Battalion at F-019305 - F-004304, 2nd Battalion at F-038316 - F-029313, 3rd Battalion at F-049325 - F-045314 - F-040316 and 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry, which was attached at F-007317; 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry, held defensive positions at F-063333 - F-050328; 3rd Battalion, 13th Infantry, at F-088335 - F-084336 - F-078332; 121st Infantry, Company A, at F-064360 - F-068360, Company E, F-080346 - F-083343, Company G, F-076350 - F-079352, and Company F, F-069356 - F-074356. The remainder of the 1st Battalion, 121st Infantry, remained assembled at F-069350 as did the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry at F-019329. Reserves were the 3rd Battalion, 28th Infantry and 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry.

5th Armored Division

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83rd Infantry Division

Two platoons of Company A, 329th Infantry, advanced northeast along the DUREN (F-1146) Road during the morning, meeting only light resistance and at 0900 seized the western end of the bridge at F-111449 and the factory at F-012446. A 12 man patrol reconnoitered across the RUR River. At 0730 the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, resumed the attack east toward the RUR, and by 1000 Companies G and F had reached the final objective along the River south of the railroad in the vicinity of F-1045. Company E relieved Company K, 329th Infantry late in the period with the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, organizing positions at F-101464 - F-107451. Company L moved from BIRGEL (F-0842) to the small group of houses south of ROLSDORF (F-1044) against light resistance, sweeping the buildings for enemy and took up positions at F-109432.

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9th Infantry Division

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329th Infantry, 83rd Division, on its right, to clear remaining enemy from the west bank of the RUR River in the extreme southern part of its zone (vicinity of F-1045). Under a smoke screen the Company moved rapidly against moderate opposition and by 1215 had eliminated all resistance within the area. Outposts and patrols were established to maintain contact with adjacent units. At 2225 hours relief of the unit was completed by Company E, 329th Infantry, and Company K moved to assembly area in the vicinity of [illegible] (F-0545).

The 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry supported Company K's attack with fire and established contact with the 39th Infantry unit. At 1600 a half squad of riflemen and one machine gun squad relieved Company C, 39th Infantry at the [illegible] 500 yards north of [illegible] (F-0748). The 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry moved to [illegible] as reserves, assembling there by 2000, and at [illegible] the whole Regimental Combat Team was attached to the 104th Infantry Division.

104th Infantry Division

All defensive positions throughout the Division sector were improved with work of this sort being continued throughout the period. Plans were [illegible] patrol reconnaissance east of the RUR River during the [illegible].

Artillery

83rd Division: fired [illegible] missions as follows: 7 personnel, 4 close support, 6 counterbattery, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, and 15 miscellaneous. Rounds expended, [illegible].

104th Division: fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] personnel, 1 mortar [illegible], [illegible] interdiction and harassing, [illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended, [illegible].

[illegible] fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] personnel, [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] interdiction and harassing, [illegible]. Rounds expended, [illegible].

[illegible] fired [illegible] missions as follows: [illegible] personnel, [illegible] counterbattery, [illegible] miscellaneous. Rounds expended, [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible]

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18 December. S E C R E T

attack was negligible, and no casualties reported. The 116th AAA Gun Battalion engaged 75 - 100 enemy planes on 16 separate raids, destroying 16 and probably destroying 7 more with 1,121 rounds of 90mm fire. In addition to these 23 claims made by Corps AA (102d AAA Gp), the 397th AAA (AW) Bn, with 5th Armd Div, probably destroyed one enemy plane.

Tank Destroyers: An enemy supply point, a motorcycle, and 2 CP's were destroyed and 11 enemy killed by the 629th TD Bn which expended 14 rounds of 3" HE direct fire. The 602nd TD Bn expended 16 rounds of 3" HE in direct fire on 4 harassing missions, and 5 rounds of 3" HE and 20 rounds of 3" APC on two suspected CP's. Two enemy CP's were destroyed by the 803d TD Bn with a direct fire expenditure of 9 rounds of 3" HE and 36 rounds of APC.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 137.

19 December 1944

All elements of VII Corps continued preparation and improvement of positions for defense of the Corps sector, the front of which extended for 35 kilometers along the RUR River from north of SCHMIDTHEIM (F-0551) to STRAUCH (F-1130) and thence southwest of BRADENBURG (F-0732) - east of HOSCHEID (F-0332) - east of HEMMERICH (F-0004) - south of SCHLEIDEN (F-0797) - F-2502d3 - F-4.5222.

Following a night of light artillery fire, scattered air activity, usually single raids, and limited ground patrolling, the day was characterized by signs of enemy withdrawal on the enemy vehicular traffic behind his front. From the northern portion of the Corps sector heavy vehicular traffic was first heard at 1100, centered around GEICH (F-1158) and KOMMERSCHEID (F-1054), while movement was seen later at BRAUNLAUF (F-0751) and at the AMMERTAL "Silver Lake" (F-0901).

The enemy broke his [illegible] south of BIRGEL (F-1146) when at 1130 he smoked and shelled the village of LANGERWEHE (F-1141). Shortly thereafter [illegible] was visible on the east bank of the RUR River, opposite the town. Also in the vicinity of BIRGEL (F-1130) and WARIMONT (F-1130) the enemy was noticeably vigorous in his patrolling and [illegible] in the shelling of BRANDENBURG (F-1032) with mortars.

Along the southern portion of the Corps front the enemy was very active, with artillery in the HOSCHEID (F-0830) area, smoking of enemy positions around BRANDENBURG (F-0732), and in heavy his vehicles east of that town. Northwest of SCHLAMMERTAL (F-0832), from the vicinity of F-0932, [illegible] by the enemy while enemy vehicles were reported at BRANDENBURG (F-0164). In the [illegible] the vicinity of the draw south of [illegible] (vicinity of F-0701).

Unfavorable weather again precluded [illegible]

29th Infantry Division (less 3114th Infantry, with Combat Command [illegible], 5th Armored Division, 2nd Cavalry Group, 101st Infantry, 102nd Cavalry Group, and 2nd Ranger Battalion, attached); [illegible] the defense of

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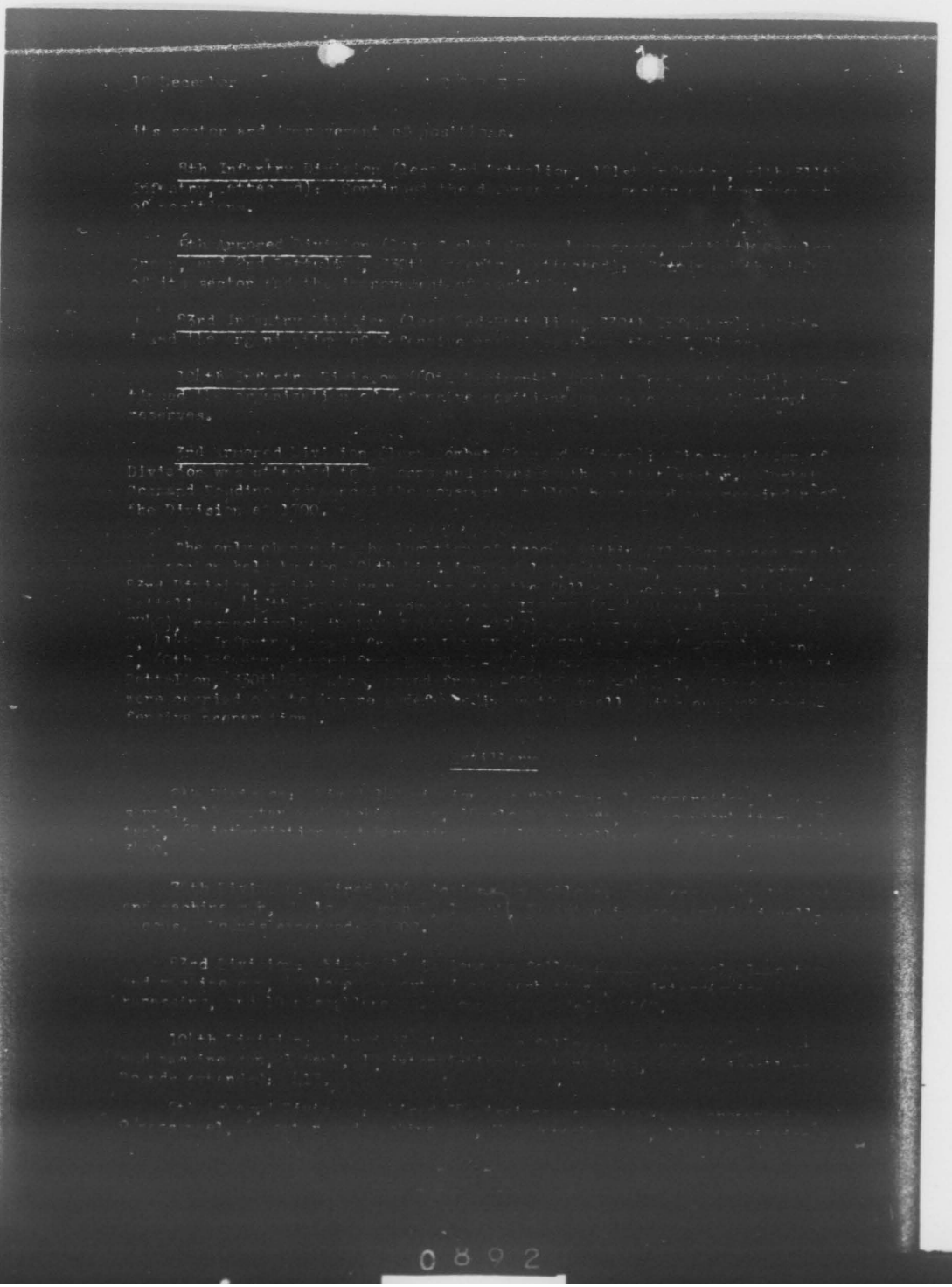

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and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1671.

Corps: Fired 51 missions as follows: 1 personnel, 1 close support, 7 counterbattery, 40 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1762.

Antiaircraft (For 24 hour period ending at 190600): Enemy air activity was confined for the greater part to daylight hours. Between 130 and 140 enemy aircraft were in the Corps area during the hours of 0900 to 1320. Hostile acts were comparatively few with some bombing and strafing throughout the area. Between 0613 and 0528, 30 planes were engaged by the 116th AAA Gun Bn with claims of 3 destroyed and 4 probably destroyed. The 474th AAA (AW) Bn (SP) engaged between 30 and 35 planes between 0915 and 1321 hours with claims of 9 destroyed and 9 probably destroyed. The 438th AAA (AW) Bn engaged approximately 60 planes without claims. In addition to these enemy planes shot down by the 109th AAA Gp, the 453rd AAA AW Bn, attached to the 83rd Div shot down 26 enemy planes and claimed 13 more probably shot down. Other claims made by AA units with Divisions were as follows: 387th AAA (AW) Bn (78th Div) 1 destroyed and 4 probably destroyed; 376th AAA (AW) Bn (9th Div) 2 probably destroyed; 555th AAA (AW) Bn (104th Div) 1 destroyed and 3 probably destroyed; 486th AAA (AW) Bn (SP) (3rd Armd Div) 2 probably destroyed.

The 26 planes destroyed by the 453rd AAA (AW) Bn is the largest number of enemy craft brought down by a single battalion with VII Corps in a 24 hour period in the history of VII Corps, and the total number of claims for the day - 77 - "cat I's" and 33 "cat II's" - far surpasses the best previous 24 hour period of Antiaircraft firing done by the Corps. No damage was reported during the enemy raids, although two enlisted men were wounded by flak.

Tank Destroyers: 100 rounds of 3" HEPC indirect fire was expended by the 629th TD Bn on harassing missions and 4 rounds of 3" illuminating shell. The 692nd TD Bn fired both direct and indirect fire, expending 30 rounds of 3" APC and 10 rounds of 3" HE of the former, destroying two enemy OP's, and 60 rounds of 3" HEPC of the latter on four harassing missions.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 91.

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20 DECEMBER 1944

While the 5th Armored Division resumed the attack to the east toward the RUR River with two combat commands, other units of VII Corps regrouped and continued the preparation and improvement of defenses with the Corps sector.

During the early hours of the period the enemy limited his offensive activity to light, scattered artillery fire and to the employment of one small patrol. From KREUZAU (F-1139) north along the Corps front this inactivity continued throughout the period. However, in the DOCHEIM (F-0837) - BILSTEIN (F-1037) - [redacted] (F-1140) area he resisted strongly our advances. Our movements were met with anti-tank, and bazooka fire in addition to tank and artillery fire from east of the RUR River.

At 1640 hours, the 353rd Fusilier Battalion, 353rd Division, made a probing attack, supported by six tanks and self-propelled guns. The attack, moving to the northwest, reached a point 400 yards southeast of BILSTEIN where it was repelled with the loss of one tank to the enemy. By the close of the period other elements of the 353rd Division were fighting to maintain their hold in SCHMIDHAUSEN. The tracked vehicular activity which had been so continuous and audible in the KESTENICH (F-0004) - STRAUCH (F0126) area between 0330 and 0530 hours, became negligible during the daylight hours and was not resumed at nightfall.

78th Infantry Division (less 311th Infantry, with Combat Command Anderson, 5th Armored Division, 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry, 102nd Cavalry Group, and 2nd Ranger Battalion, attached): Continued the defense of its sector improving and consolidating positions with no appreciable change in the location of any units.

8th Infantry Division (less 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry, with 311th Infantry, attached): Continued the defense of its sector, improving and consolidating positions, and regrouped some units.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson, with 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry and 4th Cavalry Group, attached): Resumed the attack, clearing the valley to the high ground west of KIRSCH (F-1138), and half of SCHMIDHAUSEN (F-1140), captured DOCHEIM (F-0837), extended the right flank of the Division and gained a foothold in the town of [redacted] (F-0937).

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry): Continued to defend and improve its positions along the RUR River, and readjusted some reserve units.

104th Infantry Division: Continued to defend and improve its positions along the RUR River, and readjusted some reserve units.

5th Armored Division

Combat Command Cole attacked at 0700 hours with the 4th Cavalry Group advancing to its limited objective of DOCHEIM (F-0837), after encountering a dense minefield which was defended by enemy. At the close of the period

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elements of the 121st Infantry, 8th Division were relieving the Cavalry. Meanwhile other elements of the Command with the attached 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry attacked to clear the enemy pocket west of the [illegible] in the vicinity of (F-0937). Local gains were made with the enemy employing small arms, machine gun and bazooka fire to hold up the advance. Half of the town of [illegible] (F-0937) was cleared and at the close of the period positions were held at (F-098378).

At 0930 hours Combat Command Regneir attacked, clearing the draw to the high ground west of [illegible] (F-1138) and advanced to the outskirts of [illegible] (F-1140), meeting moderate resistance. The attack against the town was made at 1535 by 46th Armored Infantry Battalion. Half of [illegible] was cleared, but heavy small arms fire from the burning town prevented further progress. Artillery fire from the high ground to the west enabled the Combat Command to control the town, and artillery also covered the bridge and town across the [illegible] River.

Other Units

In strengthening defensive positions and regrouping, the following changes in locations of units were made within the Corps sector: 8th Infantry Division, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry established new positions at F-049335 - F-043314 - F-040316 with Company C at F-016330; the 3rd Battalion, 311th Infantry, moved to F-000316 where Company A rejoined the Battalion, while Company I moved to F-013317.

The 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry (83rd Infantry Division) took up new positions at F-098463 - F-102455 - F-106453, with Company F moving to [illegible] (F-0844); Company B, 330th Infantry, moved into the town of [illegible] (F-0739), Company C moved to [illegible] (F-1039); Company D moved from [illegible] (F-1041) to positions at F-061402, being relieved in [illegible] by Company I, which had been in [illegible] (F-1141).

Company C, 413th Infantry (104th Infantry Division) moved out of [illegible] (F-0545) and organized positions at F-078456, while the 3rd Battalion of the same Regiment moved from [illegible] (F-9749) to [illegible] (F-0644).

Artillery

8th Div: Fired 82 missions as follows: 10 personnel, 10 mortar and machine gun, 14 close support, 7 counterbattery, 1 tank, 31 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1265.

78th Div: Fired 144 missions as follows: 24 personnel, 12 mortar and machine gun, 25 close support, 2 counterbattery, 1 tank, 70 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3441.

83rd Div: Fired 142 missions as follows: 16 preparation, 4 personnel, 6 close support, 1 counterbattery, 4 tank, 63 interdiction and harassing, and 48 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1819.

104th Div: Fired 46 missions as follows: 5 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 1 counterbattery, 1 tank, 33 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous.

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5th Armd Div: Fired 55 missions as follows: 14 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 3 counterbattery, 4 tank, 20 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2457.

Corps: Fired 67 missions as follows: 2 personnel, 2 close support, 19 counterbattery, 2 tank, 41 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1566.

Antiaircraft: The 460th AA (AW) Bn engaged 3 FW-109's at 1605 hours, claiming 2 destroyed. The 461st AA (AW) Bn, supporting the 78th Div Arty, engaged 6 enemy craft between 1605 and 1623, claiming 3 destroyed. One enemy plane was claimed destroyed by Automatic Weapons units and the several divisions also claimed one enemy craft probably destroyed. (For 24 hour period ending at 0600).

Tank Destroyers: The 629th TD Bn fired 100 rounds of 3" HEAT on harassing missions, and the 692nd TD Bn fired 60 rounds of 3" HEAT on harassing missions, both indirect fire.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 89.

21 DECEMBER 1944

Local attacks were continued by elements of VII Corps to clean out remaining enemy resistance west of the RUR River in the vicinity of F-0836 and F-1139 with slight progress being made. Effective at 2400, the XIX Corps assumed control of VII Corps area, and Headquarters VII Corps and Corps troops prepared to move to a new sector to be employed against the break-through of the German offensive which had penetrated some 35 miles into Belgium and Luxembourg. Headquarters VII Corps was ordered by First U.S. Army to open in the MARCHE (P-2983) - HOTTON (P-3587) area at the earliest possible moment.

The XIX Corps is assuming responsibility for the strong defensive sector of VII Corps also had the 104th, 83rd, 8th and 78th Infantry Divisions, the 5th Armored Division, less Combat Command Anderson, with the same attachments as the previous period, attached. Prior to being relieved by XIX Corps, Combat Command Anderson, 5th Armored Division, was detached from VII Corps and attached to V Corps.

Enemy activity was confined to the southern half of the Corps area, mostly as a result of our new offensive effort. Elements of the 353rd Division continued their fight throughout the day to hold SCHNEIDHAUSEN (F-1140), but by the close of the period had lost half the village and were making a house to house stand to hold the remainder. The employment of direct fire weapons from the east bank of the RUR River continued. Also by the close of the period elements of the 6th Parachute Regiment had fallen back into the town of UNTERMAUBACH (F-0937) which they defended with small arms fire and mortars.

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The area between BERGSTEIN (F-0733) and KESTERNICH (F-0024) remained quiet until 1800 when a three-pronged attack from the southeast, east and northeast was launched against the latter town. All three infantry thrusts were repulsed by artillery fire before they reached our lines. Tanks, although heard in the distance, did not make an appearance.

78th Infantry Division (less 1st and 2nd Battalions, 311th Infantry, with Combat Command Anderson, 5th Armored Division, 102nd Cavalry Group, and 2nd Ranger Battalion, attached): Repulsed enemy counter-attack of tanks and infantry in the vicinity of KESTERNICH (F-0024) late in the period, employing heavy concentrations of artillery with severe losses inflicted upon the enemy. Continued to improve defense of sector. The 3rd Battalion, 311th Infantry, reverted to Division control.

8th Infantry Division (1st and 2nd Battalions, 311th Infantry, attached): Continued regrouping and improved positions. 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry, reverted to Division control, and 3rd Battalion, 311th Infantry, was detached and returned to 78th Division control. Relief of 4th Cavalry Group was begun by units of 121st Infantry.

5th Armored Division (less Combat Command Anderson with 4th Cavalry Group, and 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): Resumed the attack against SCHEIDHAUSEN (F-1140) and UNTERMAUBACH (F-0937) making slight progress. At the close of the period the 4th Cavalry Group was being relieved in the line by elements of the 8th Division.

83rd Infantry Division: Continued regrouping and organization of defensive positions along the RUR River.

104th Infantry Division: Continued regrouping and organization of defensive positions. The 60th Regimental Combat Team (9th Infantry Division) was relieved late in the period and assembled in the vicinity of BUSBACH (F-0240). 3rd Battalion, 414th Infantry, was released from one-hour alert status for possible action against enemy paratroopers.

5th Armored Division

Combat Command Cole attacked at 0830 to clear remaining enemy resistance from the west side of the RUR. The 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, made some progress in difficult house to house fighting in UNTERMAUBACH (F-0937). Elements of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron pushed forward to the high ground in the vicinity of F-085373 and occupied their objective by 1330 hours, although bitter resistance was encountered from elements of the 2nd Battalion, 6th Parachute Regiment. At the close of the period relief of the Squadron had been commenced by 121st Infantry, 8th Division.

Meanwhile elements of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron advanced to the high ground overlooking OBERMAUBACH (F-0836) at 1120 and then attacked to take the town itself, but after advancing to F-085366, the Squadron was ordered to hold its ground and prepare for relief by the 2nd Battalion, 121st Infantry (8th Division).

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SCHNEIDHAUSEN (F-1140) was attacked by Combat Command Regnier at 1130. Mines, mortar-artillery concentrations, and heavy small arms fire from east of the RUR River prevented the complete occupation of the town. Company B, 46th Armored Infantry Battalion, supported by a platoon of Company A, 34th Armored Battalion, made the assault while other units consolidated positions.

Other Units

In strengthening defensive positions and regrouping the following changes were made within the Corps sector: 3rd Battalion, 311th Infantry, returned to Division control and took up positions with Company I at K-959255 - K-956250 - K-950242; Company K in the vicinity of K-948242; with Company L at K-942239.

2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, joined Company F at GERZENICH (F-0844), and the 3rd Battalion took up positions with Company I moving from BIRGEL (F-0942) to F-097437, and Company K moving to F-092422; Company A, 331st Infantry, occupied HILL 211 (F-1139) while the remainder of the 1st Battalion moved from positions at F-044432 to F-054386.

The 1st Battalion, 413th Infantry, which had occupied LANGENBENE (F-0347), moved to MARIAWEILER (F-0947) with elements also in HOVEN (F-0848); 2nd Battalion, 413th Infantry, occupied SCHEZ (F-0748) in addition to SCHLICH (F-0645), while the 3rd Battalion took up positions at F-099463 - F-102459 - F-101455 - F-105455; 1st Battalion, 414th Infantry, assembled in ESCHWEILER (K-9647); Company A, 415th Infantry, joined the rest of the 1st Battalion in MERKEN (F-0750) with Company F moving from LANGERSDORF (F-0250) to INDEN (F-0252) while the 3rd Battalion after being relieved in MARIAWEILER (F-0947) reverted to reserve in LUCHERBERG (F-0450), less Company K which organized positions in the vicinity of F-068512.

Artillery

Field Artillery activities of units operating under VII Corps were included in previous day's artillery resume which included the 24 hour period up to 211200.

Antiaircraft (24 hour period ending 210600): 460th AAA (AW) Bn engaged 2 ME-109's at 1025, destroying 1. Division AA Bns engaged 4 ME-109's between 1010 and 1030, claiming 1 destroyed and 1 probably destroyed.

Tank Destroyers: No report of activity.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 68.

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22 DECEMBER 1944

VII Corps was relieved of its strong defensive sector along the RUR River in the DUREN (F-1146) area of Germany, and moved rapidly back into Belgium to assemble in the general area southwest of LIEGE (K-4028) - MARCHE (P-2983), HOTTON (P-3087), HODAVE (K-2707), HOMVILLE (P-2994) to counter-attack or to seal off the westward penetration, achieved by the German counter-offensive. The Corps had a front over 65 kilometers long on First U.S. Army's right flank with the American XVIII (Airborne) Corps on its left and elements of the British XXX Corps on its right. The left boundary between the XVIII and VII Corps was along the L'AMANCE River from P-4598 to P-5290. The 29th Armored Brigade protected bridges across the MEUSE River with a reinforced medium tank battalion at each of the following towns: NAMUR (J-1896), DINANT (O-9858), and [illegible]ET (O-9275).

As reconstituted the VII Corps comprised the 75th and 84th Infantry Divisions and the 2nd Armored Division together with some of the same Corps troops including engineers, cavalry, artillery, both field and antiaircraft and service troops. The Corps Headquarters closed in [illegible]MELUMMSTER, Germany, (K-9037) and opened at BASSINNES, Belgium (P-29[illegible]98) at 1200A with most of the Corps troops assembling in the new area. All divisions were closed in the new area prior to the close of the period, although some Corps troops were still enroute from Germany. The area of the Corps new zone of operations had been liberated by VII Corps during the first two weeks of September.

With the German attack in the EIFEL in its seventh day, many aspects of the German order of battle and the enemy's intentions as gathered from prisoners of war and captured documents began to crystalize. LVIII Panzer Corps (2nd and 130th Panzer Divisions), XLVII Panzer Corps (116th Panzer Division and Grossdeutschland Divisions), and I SS Panzer Corps (1st SS and 12th SS Divisions) were identified. With the capture of ST. VITH (P-8568) by elements of the 2nd SS Panzer Division during the previous period, the 9th SS Panzer Division was also believed to have been committed as prisoners were captured from its Engineer Battalion.

In the HOTTON (P-3687) area four enemy tanks were destroyed out of an estimated seven tanks and twelve personnel carriers. At the close of the period the enemy dropped flares in the vicinity of BOMAL (approximately P-3499). Our forces continued to hold STAVELOT (K-7101) and STOUMONT (K-6802) while ST. VITH remained in enemy hands.

2nd Armored Division: Closed in assembly area at 2145 hours, established local security, refueled, and prepared for future operations. Regimental Combat Team 60 was attached to V Corps at 1930. Combat Command ("A") Collier was in the vicinity of ODEIT (K-2701), Combat Command ("B") White was in the vicinity of CLAVIER (K-3104) and Combat Command (Reserve) Stokes was in the vicinity of PONTAZ (K-3404).

84th Infantry Division: Continued to maintain and improve defensive positions, repulsing small enemy attacks. Location of units at the close of the period was as follows: 333rd Infantry assembled in the vicinity of

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HEURE (P-2691); 334th Infantry, 1st Battalion, vicinity of BOURDON (P-3385), 2nd Battalion, P-367835 with Company E at P-360875 - P-360856, 3rd Battalion, P-360856 - P-317834; 335th Infantry, 1st Battalion, P292815 - P-262823 - P-287042, 2nd Battalion, P316834 - P310818 - P282815, 3rd Battalion, vicinity of P273853.

75th Infantry Division: Closed in assembly area at 2400 hours. Maintained patrol screen and outpost of assembly area. Location of units at the close of the period: 289th Infantry in the vicinity of PALENGE (P-3698), 290th Infantry in the vicinity of PETITE-SOMME (P-3497), and the 291st Infantry in the vicinity of LONGUEVILLE (K-3801).

Artillery

No firing was done by Field Artillery units of VII Corps Artillery as all units were enroute from Germany to the new zone of operations.

Antiaircraft (for 24 hour period ending at 0600): No action against enemy aircraft.

Tank Destroyers: Not engaged during the period.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 0.

23 DECEMBER 1944

During the day VII Corps began forming a defensive line against the enemy's counter-offensive by establishing road blocks and outposts to the south, southeast and southwest of the Corps assembly area and stablized the right flank. Numerous small enemy armored thrusts from the southeast and southwest were either repulsed or destroyed. Despite the extremely cold and generally clear weather a ground haze prevented fighter-bomber support of the Corps.

At 1630 hours the 3rd Armored Division, less Combat Command Boudinot, was attached to the Corps, taking up positions on our left flank. The 84th Infantry Division occupied the center of the Corps sector and the 2nd Armored Division the long right flank with the 75th Infantry Division, less certain detachments, in Corps reserve.

The enemy continued to build up his forces in the MARCHE (P-2983) - HOTTON (P-3687) area with the evident intention of launching a new drive for the MEUSE River. There was reconnaissance in force and probing of our lines in several instances resulting in small groups of infantry supported by tanks locked in pitched battle with our units. At 0830 approximately 100 enemy infantry and one half-track were observed in the vicinity of HARGIMONT (P-2679), but turned off before reaching our lines. Several fire fights took place at HOTTON, at SOY (P-4180) and south of MARCHE (P-2983) during the day, and the 116th Panzer Division, 2nd SS Panzer Division and 560th Volksgrenadier Division were identified.

Infantry and tanks were also reported at LEIGNON (P-1288), FORZES (P-1783) and SERINCHAMPS (P-2184). At 1500 and 1530 armored columns were seen

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crossing the railroad west of HAVERSIN (P-1986). It is believed that this column comprised the enemy force that overran the gun positions of one of our outposts without stopping to destroy or confiscate the material before moving on to the west.

VII Corps held the right flank of the First U.S. Army between the American XVIII (Airborne) Corps on the left and British XXX Corps on the right. The boundary between VII-XVIII Corps was along L'OURTHE River, POMAL (P-4299), to MANHAY (P-5390) along the road to the bend at P-598831, all inclusive to VII Corps, effective at 1630 hours. No definite right flank boundary was established as the Corps operated in the general area south of LA MEUSE River and east of NAMUR (J-9612) - DINANT (O-9888) - GIVET (O-9275). Roughly the Corps was operating on a front about 75 kilometers long from the junction of LESSE and MEUSE River to the vicinity of ANSMERMME (O-9885) on the right, to the road running southeast from MANHAY in the vicinity of(P-5983).

2nd Armored Division: Established defended road blocks at P-116912, P-121907, P-134912, P-180903, and P-218892. During the afternoon Combat Command Collier moved to CINEY (P-1201) and thence south, seizing LEIGNON (P-1288) and cleaning up resistance in the town where several enemy self-propelled guns were knocked out stablizing the right flank of the Corps. At the close of the period the Command was forming to attack an enemy column composed of tanks and infantry. A pocket of enemy resistance was contained in the vicinity of P-139899 and was being mopped up.

4th Cavalry Group: The Group arrived in the assembly area early in the morning from the old VII Corps sector along the RUR River of Germany. During the day the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron began patrolling the HAVERSIN (P-1986) - ROCHE (P-2586) area. Enemy forces were contacted in the vicinity of HAVERSIN, and withdrew upon contact.

84th Infantry Division (Task Force Doan, 3rd Armored Division, attached): Contact with the enemy was made in the vicinity of ROCHEFORT (P-2076), HOMPRE (P-3607), and in BUISSONVILLE (P-1983). During the afternoon Company B, 333rd Infantry, was cut off in BUISSONVILLE by an estimated 400 infantry and 15 tanks.

3rd Armored Division (less Combat Command Boudinot and Task Force Doan, with 290th Regimental Combat Team, 75th Division, 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion and 1st Battalion, 517th Parachute Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division, attached): Elements moved out to establish a screen line southeast of the Corps assembly area and established road blocks at P-552870, P-535862, P-519886, P-515862, P510 83, P504860, P-500869, P-465880, and P-458885. The road blocks at P-505860 and P-515862 were under heavy pressure, the one at P-535862 was surrounded with its defenders attempting to break away, and the one at P-576852 was overrun and its defenders driven north. Task Force Boggun was isolated in ARLONVAY (P-4381) and attempts to supply the force by air were unsuccessful. Combat Command Howze received heavy artillery and mortar fire from the east in HOMPRE (P-3788), but held the northern half of the town.

75th Infantry Division (less 290th Regimental Combat Team): Remained

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in Corps reserve, outposted along L'OURTHE River between BOMAL (P-4299) and GRANDE-ENNEILLE (P-3293) and patrolled in the area PETITE-ENNEILLE (P-3394) - BOMAL - HOTTON. Units were assembled in the following locations: 289th Infantry, 1st Battalion, vicinity of P-370985, 2nd Battalion, P-350-987, 3rd Battalion, P-388986; 291st Infantry, 1st Battalion, P-409023, 2nd Battalion, P-390000, 3rd Battalion, vicinity of P-410010.

2nd Armored Division

Assigned the mission of attacking 23 December to eliminate enemy resistance in the CINEY (P-1291) - LEIGNON (P-1288) - BOISSONVILLE (P-1882) - ROCHEFORT (P-2076) area, the Division sent Combat Command Collier to establish road blocks at P-116912, P-126910, and P-134912. During the afternoon the Combat Command moved to CINEY at about 1500 hours, outposted the town with Task Force C and contacted the 3rd Battalion, Royal Tank Regiment (British) 2 kilometers west of the town. Two columns (Task Forces A and B) moved south, Task Force A toward TRISOGNE (P-1690), then west, and Task Force B toward LEIGNON. This column destroyed two half tracks and an anti-tank gun, and then moved through LEIGNON. The town was outposted and on order of the Commanding General the column moved through the outpost and enemy small arms fire from the high ground east and south of LEIGNON toward BOISSONVILLE. While Task Force C outposted CINEY, Task Force B protected the CINEY - LEIGNON area. At the close of the period the three task forces of Combat Command Collier were at the following approximate locations: Task Force A, P-175869; Task Force B, LEIGNON (P-1288); and Task Force C, P-109921 - P-116912 - P-126910.

Combat Command White after establishing road blocks at P-180903 and P-218892, remained assembled in the vicinity of K-313040, and Combat Command Stokes was assembled in the vicinity of K-3505.

4th Cavalry Group

The Group had the task of reconnoitering to the right of the Corps in the area HUMAIN (P-2183) - ROCHEFORT (P-2076) - along L'HOMME - LESSE Rivers to the junction with LA MEUSE - LEIGNON (P-1288), having arrived in the Corps assembly area early in the morning from the old Corps sector in Germany. The Group assembly area in the vicinity of PESSOUX (P-1890) to HAVERSIN (P-1986) was divided into three sectors for local defense. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was assigned the responsibility for the area to the southeast of HAVERSIN - NETTINNE Road (exclusive) while the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron had the area to the northwest of the road inclusive, and the remainder of the perimeter was held by the 759th Light Tank Battalion. The 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion assembled in the vicinity of P-235892.

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron began patrolling the HAVERSIN - HOGNE (P-2586) area. Elements of the 1st Battalion, 304th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, with 8 tanks contacted the road block of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron southeast of HAVERSIN at 1245 hours. The enemy attacked dismounted and penetrated our positions, but after a brisk fire fight, they were driven off and the positions restored.

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84th Infantry Division

In the center of the Corps sector the 84th Infantry was given the mission of securing the lines: MARCHE (P-2983) - HOTTON (P-3687) and back roads and delay along the lines: BEAURAING (P-0171) - WELLIN (P-1268) - GRUPONT (P-2468) and CIERGNON (P-1177) - ROCHEFORT (P-2076) - JEMELLE (P-2376) - HARGIMONT (P-2678) - RJ (P-3077). The Division continued to outpost and defend its sector. While Company L, 335th Infantry, was attached to the 3rd Armored Division, and heavily engaged with enemy forces in the vicinity of the enemy held town of HARGIMONT (P-2678), other units of the Regiment continued to organize and improve defensive positions. Units of the 3rd Battalion held positions in the ROCHEFORT (P-2076) - GRUPONT (P-2486) - TELLIN (P-2067) area. Company K was attempting to withdraw from the vicinity of TELLIN to ROCHFORT to join in a coordinated attack on JEMELLE (P-2376).

A number of enemy tanks were driven back from the vicinity of ROCHFORT toward HARSIN (P-2978). Company E was cut off by an estimated 400 enemy with 15 tanks in the vicinity of P-301818. Task Force Dean of the 3rd Armored Division was attached and defended road blocks at P-295778, P-304-792, and P-313812. Companies F and G held positions at P-311821 - P-317833, and P-364875, respectively, while units of the 1st Battalion were deployed as follows: Company A, AYE (P-2683), Company B, MARLOIE (P-2780), and Company C in the vicinity of P-279838.

The 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, repulsed a small enemy reconnaissance and task force in the vicinity of HOTTON (P-3687) during the morning. Positions were successfully maintained and defenses organized and improved. The 3rd Battalion units were located as follows: Company I, P-318834 - P-341845, Company L, P-341845 - P-360855, and Company K, P-339851. The 1st Battalion was assembled in the vicinity of P-335857. Units of the 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, formed a combat reconnaissance screen located as follows: Company A, WANLIN (P-0976), Company B, WELLIN (P-1268), Company C, BEAURAING (P-1071), while the 2nd Battalion held positions at P-282895 with Company G at P-269790 - P-260787, and the 3rd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of P-288858.

3rd Armored Division

Effective at 1630 hours the Division was relieved from attachment to the XVIII (Airborne) Corps and reverted to control of VII Corps, taking over a defensive sector on our left flank, with the mission of defending the general line: RJ at P-576853 - ODEIGNE (P-5386) - stream junction at P-476864 - along AISNE River- AMONINES (P-4487) - HAUTEAU (P-3886), exclusive, and preventing any enemy penetration. Regimental Combat Team 290 of the 75th Infantry Division, and the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, were attached to the 3rd Armored Division at 2330 hours and 0230 hours respectively, while Task Force Dean was attached to the 84th Infantry Division, at 1630.

Combat Command Howze attacked with the mission of clearing out resistance between HOTTON (P-3687) and SOY (P-4199). The attack was launched by one company of the 1st Battalion, 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment,

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astride the HOTTON - SOY Road. Stubborn resistance was met and the force north of the road was pinned down by small arms fire. The attack south of the road made slow progress against a determined enemy. A force consisting of one platoon of medium tanks and a parachute infantry company was sent via SOY - NY (P-3989) to the HOTTON - BARVAUX (P-4096) Road into HOTTON with the objective of attacking east along the HOTTON - SOY Road to clean out enemy resistance. The eastern part of HOTTON was strongly defended and at the close of the period the enemy was still defending stubbornly along the SOY - HOTTON Road.

Task Force Kane renewed the attack on DOCHAMPS (P-4984), but was unable to make any substantial gain in the face of increased opposition. At 0800 hours the road block at P-576853 was heavily attacked by tank supported infantry. The enemy succeeded in cutting the road between the road block and MANHAY (P-5390) and reinforcements consisting of 6 medium tanks from Task Force Reichardson and a company of the 509th Parachute Infantry was sent to reinforce the block. At 1235 Task Force Richardson assumed responsibility for the road block, relieving Task Force Kane; all equipment and personnel of Task Force Kane at the road block remained in place under Task Force Richardson. The road block remained under heavy pressure by the enemy and at 1958 was overrun. Task Force Richardson withdrew to P-552870. Meanwhile Task Force Kane was at P-492842.

Task Force Hogan which had been cut off in MARCOURAY (P-4381) remained isolated by a strong enemy force, although communication by radio still continued. Attempts to supply the Task Force by air proved unsuccessful.

At the close of the period elements of Combat Command Howze and Division service troops were holding the northern part of HOTTON and were subjected to heavy artillery and mortar fire from the east. Task Force Orr of Combat Command Hickey continued the attack to the southwest and managed to secure MONINES (P-4487) in a heavy engagement and also mangged to hold road blocks at P-465880 and P-458885.

The attached 290th Infantry units were located as follows: 1st Battalion, P-325965, 2nd Battalion, P-330945, and the 3rd Battalion, P-360963.

Artillery

Units of the Corps Artillery moved to assembly areas in the new Corps sector in the general area MAFFE (P-2747), SOMME LEUZE (P-3196), NETTINNE (P-2390), REMONT (P-2195), and during the day went into firing position. No firing was done by our Field Artillery,

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600. Hq and 3 btrys of 474th AAA (AW) Bn (SP) arrived in assembly area in the vicinity of MAFFE. Headquarters, 438th AAA (AW) Bn also arrived in this vicinity while all other units were enroute.

Tank Destroyers: Enroute to new Corps area.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 21.

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The Corps strengthened its defensive sector and improved positions, stabilizing its front by attacking and seizing the BUISSONVILLE (P-1982) area, HUMAIN (P-2381), and clearing the HOTTON (P-3687) - SOY (P-4189) Road. Several enemy attacks to capture VERDENNE (P-3384) were repulsed, but in the vicinity of ROCHEFORT (P-2076), the 3rd Battalion, 335th Infantry, less Company L, was isolated and Task Force Hogan remained cut off in MARCOURAY (P-4381). Attempts to supply the isolated 3rd Armored Division unit by air again failed with supplies falling several miles away from the beleaguered group.

Both the 2nd Panzer and 116th Panzer Divisions continued their probing attacks to the west and northwest throughout the period. During the hours od darkness elements of the Reconnaissance Battalion, 116th Panzer Division, infiltrated our lines as far as the vicinity of P-335868 while tank and vehicle movement was noticeable two miles south of CINEY (vicinity of P-129878). Also elements of the 116th Panzer Division's Reconnaissance Battalion entered VERDENNE for a few hours before being driven out by our troops.

Further to the east more of the 116th Panzer Division made contact with our troops in the SOY - AMONINES (P-4487) - ODEIGNE (P-5386) area where they attempted to break through to the northwest, especially in the ODEIGNE area. In the area southwest and west of MARCHE (P-2983) elements of the 2nd Panzer Division were likewise active. After being attacked by our troops during the night of 23-24 December, a column withdrew south of BUISSONVILLE, probably hiding out in the woods northeast of the town during the day. Tanks and infantry fought to maintain the MONT-GAUTHIER (P-1382) - HAVERSIN (P-1986) Road. During the day the enemy shifted further west, building up his forces in the CELLES (P-0584) area and southeast of DINANT (O-9888).

When II SS Panzer Corps (2nd and 9th SS Panzer Divisions) were identified in the ST. VITH (P-0688) area, all major elements of the Fifth Panzer Army and the Sixth SS Panzer Army, the two offensive German armies, had been committed. At the beginning of the offensive on 16 December, I SS Panzer Corps led off by attacking along the axis MALMEDY (K-7804), STAVELOT (K-6801), LA GLEIZE (K-6604), STOUMONT (K-6202), employing 150th Panzer Brigade, followed closely by 1st SS Division and 12th SS Division abreast, the latter being on the north flank.

By this time it was apparent that 1st SS Division was to advance west to AYWAILLE (K-5410), thence north to LA REUSE, west of LIEGE (K-4829), while 12th SS Division was to advance northwest through ELSENBORN (K-9207) to VERVIERS (K-6723) and then to LIEGE. II SS Corps was to be withheld to exploit any success. To date 1st SS Division has moved straight west to STOUMONT (K-6202), where it was checked, while 12th SS Division, aided by the 3rd Parachute Division, has been attempting to break through the FAYMONVILLE (K-8602) - BULLINGEN (K-9502) - KRINKELT (K-9704) area.

All had not gone as originally planned by General Dietrich, Commanding General, Sixth Panzer Army. ST. VITH, which was one of the early objectives of the drive, held out longer than anticipated, and it now appeared that both 2nd SS Division and 9th SS Division had to be committed in the

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area of the Fifth Panzer Army to help break the deadlock caused by the resistance of the city.

Fighting in the south EIFEL, the Fifth Panzer Army had used XLVII Panzer Corps (116th Panzer Division, 11th Panzer Division, 560th Volksgrenadier Division, 62nd Volksgrenadier Division, and the light armored Grossdeutschland Division in the HOTTON (P-3687) - CHERAM (P-6677) area, and LVIII Panzer Corps (2nd Panzer and 130th Panzer Lehr Divisions and 26th Volksgrenadier Division) in the BASTOGNE (P-5558) - MARCHE (P-2983) area with gains as far west as CELLES (P-0584).

The offensive in the TRIER (L-2130) - ECHTERNACH (L-0536) area has been held with no apparent signs that the objective, WERSCH (P-8229) and ARLON (P-6122), would be reached. Evidence indicated that the enemy would attempt to exploit his penetration in the HOTTON - CHERAM area by trying to drive west and northwest with II SS Panzer, XLVII and LVII Panzer Corps. There was a considerable armor concentration of 2nd and 116th Panzer Divisions in the HOTTON - BUISSONVILLE (P-1982) area.

The continuation of this German offensive was contingent upon the use of captured gasoline. To date the enemy had not captured any large gasoline stores, and that which he had acquired allowed for not more than one day's operation. In the event that his attempts to capture fuel were not fruitful, higher headquarters predicted that he could not operate for more than approximately one week from 24 December.

Enemy strength committed in the breakthrough and immediate areas was estimated at 129,500 men and 869 tanks while reserves in the battle area were placed at more than 60,000 plus troops and over 250 armored vehicles by G-2.

During the day the U.S. Air Force and the RAF put over 5,000 planes in the sky which took a heavy toll of enemy equipment and personnel. Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command supported VII Corps with excellent results. All ground support missions were in the general area MONSCHAU (K-9418) - ST. VITH (P-8688) - MARCHE (P-2983) with armed reconnaissance missions extending over a broader area from TRIER (L-2130) to MONSCHAU where attacks were made on marshalling yards, trains and rail cut. A total of 148.25 tons of bombs (plus 64 rocket projectiles and 660 gal. fire bombs) were dropped on the 457 sorties flown. Ground claims included 31 armored vehicles destroyed and 39 damaged or probably destroyed, 239 motor transports destroyed, and 44 damaged or probably destroyed, 15 horse drawn vehicles destroyed and 13 damaged in addition to guns knocked out, a fuel dump, 4 buildings, and a railroad tunnel blocked. Air losses were 13 planes destroyed as against 12 German planes shot down.

2nd Armored Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, and 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry, attached): Combat Command Collier continued the attack which had been begun late the previous period, pushing south to BUISSONVILLE (P-1982) and spent the day mopping up the area between there and CINEY (P-1291). Several hundred enemy vehicles were knocked out in the drive to BUISSONVILLE. The Division regrouped its forces preparatory to attacking to the southwest of CINEY. After dark the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron

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attacked and seized HUBAN (P-2381) against light resistance. Contact was established with the British XXX Corps.

84th Infantry Division (Task Force Doan of 3rd Armored Division, attached): Maintained its defensive positions, successfully repelling enemy attacks in the vicinity of VENDENNE (P-3384). Under heavy enemy pressure the 3rd Battalion, 335th Infantry, less Company L, and 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry withdrew from ROCHEFORT (P-2076) and WAVRIN (P-0976) respectively. Task Force Doan and Company C, 333rd Infantry advanced to HARGIMONT (P-2678).

3rd Armored Division (less Combat Command Boudinot and Task Force Dean, with Regimental Combat Teams 290 and 289, 75th Infantry Division, and 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion, and 1st Battalion, 517th Parachute Infantry of the 82nd Airborne Division, attached): Combat Command Howze, cleared the HOTTON (P-3687) - SCY (P-4189) Road. Both Regimental Combat Teams 289 and 290 moved to the Division area and after dark moved to take over front line positions: GRANDHENIL (P-5290) - P-480870 - FLIER - HARPTEAU (P-3886). Task Force Hogan remained isolated in MARCOURAY (P-4391), and Task Force Richardson was attempting to withdraw into the XVIII Corps sector at the close of the period.

75th Infantry Division (less 289th and 290th Regimental Combat Teams, and 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry): Regimental Combat Team 289 was attached to the 3rd Armored Division at 1300 and the 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry, was attached to the 2nd Armored Division at 1800. The remainder of Regimental Combat Team 291 was preparing to move to the vicinity of HOMELEUZE (P-3195).

2nd Armored Division

Continuing the attack launched late in the previous period, Combat Command Collier was moving on BUISSONVILLE (P-1982) in three columns (Task Force A on the left with Task Force B in two columns and Task Force C in LEIGNON (P-1388) to protect the Command's rear and clean up any remaining resistance) at the beginning of the period. The Combat Command had proceeded to P-153872 when an enemy column was encountered. Task Force A deployed, allowed the German column to pass, and then opened fire. An unknown number of enemy were killed and 15 vehicles knocked out. Task Force B encountered 3 enemy tanks at FORZEE (P-1783) and after 1 had been knocked out the other two withdrew. Contact was established with the 4th Cavalry Group in the vicinity of P-195855, and Task Forces A and B entered BUISSONVILLE at 1550 hours. The area to the northeast of the town was cleared of the enemy with both tanks and unarmored vehicles being destroyed.

Task Force A fired on a long column of vehicles which was proceeding southeast from BUISSONVILLE. The leading vehicles were knocked out and the column halted. Firing at ranges of up to 3800 yards our units destroyed the entire column, which numbered about 250 vehicles in all. Combat Command White closed in the vicinity of SCY (P-1992) at 2045 and at 2115 Combat Command Stokes closed northeast of the town in the vicinity of P-2093.

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The reinforced 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron advanced to the southwest from assembly positions in the vicinity of HUBINNE (P-1796) to establish a screen between the junction of the LESSE and MEUSE Rivers (O-9885) and HEROCK (P-0878). Contact was established with elements of Combat Command Cellier at MONT-GAUTHIER (P-1382) and with the British in the vicinity of SORINNE (P-0388). At the close of the period elements of the Squadron were at CONNEUX (P-0986) - LA GRANDE AGAUGHE (P-0686). The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron maintained contact between the 2nd Armored and 84th Infantry Division and at the close of the period Troop A, reinforced, was enroute to secure HUMAIN (P-2381), the day's objective, which was occupied against light resistance comprised chiefly of mines, booby traps and small arms fire. The 759th Light Tank Battalion and 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion remained in Group reserve.

84th Infantry Division

The Division continued its mission to secure the HOTTON (P-3687) - MARCHE (P-2984) line. Company G, 335th Infantry was relieved in the line by Company L at P-296844 at 0100 and participated in a coordinated attack with Task Force Doan on HARGIMONT (P-2678). Very heavy resistance was encountered with little progress made and at 1635 the attackers were ordered to return to their original positions in the vicinity of MARCHE (P-2983). Company K withdrew from the vicinity of TELLIN (P-2067) and GRUPONT (P-2468) to the vicinity of ROCHEFORT (P-2076) where it was joined by Company I preparatory to returning to the vicinity of MARCHE. A fire fight with enemy tanks and infantry developed near ROCHEFORT and all efforts to later contact these elements proved unsuccessful, except for one officer and 34 enlisted men who managed to work their way back into our lines.

During the day small enemy reconnaissance and task forces were repulsed by the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 335th Infantry, and the attached 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, which held positions generally south of MARCHE as follows: Companies A, B, C, E, and F, same as the previous day; Company G at P-297815 - P-285815, and the 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry at P-282856 with Company G at P-274810. Company E, 333rd Infantry, which had been cut off in BUISSONVILLE the previous period rejoined the 2nd Battalion.

About 1510 hours, the 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry, reinforced by Company C, 771st Tank Battalion, attacked a group of 160 enemy infiltrators, dispersing the enemy and taking a number of prisoners. However, during this operation the enemy succeeded in occupying the town of VERDENNE (P-3384) with a force of some 200 troops. The 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, was attached to the 334th Infantry at 1620 with the mission of seizing and holding VERDENNE at 0100 hours on 25 December. In the meanwhile units of the 334th Infantry had engaged these enemy troops and although they were forced from the town, heavy fighting was still in progress at the end of the period in that vicinity. Elements of Company A were in VERDENNE while the rest of the 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry, remained assembled in the same location as the previous day as did other units with the exception of Company K which was also in VERDENNE, and the attached unit of the 333rd Infantry. The 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry remained in the vicinity of P-272867.

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3rd Armored Division

All positions were held throughout the day against strong and continuous enemy pressure, as the Division executed its mission of organizing and defending the Line: WERPIN (P-3987) - AMONINES (P-4487) along AISNE River to LA FOSSE (P-5088). Early in the morning Combat Command Howze attacked in two columns, one moving east from HOTTON (P-3687) and one moving west from SOY (P-4189) to reopen the road between these two towns. Good progress was made against stubborn enemy resistance and the mission was successfully accomplished. Outposts were established along the road to make it secure.

Task Force Hogan remained isolated in the vicinity of MARCOURAY (P-4381) and when at 1345 supplies were again unsuccessfully dropped by air, grave concern was expressed for the out off unit. The 289th Regimental Combat Team was attached to the Division and late in the period both the 290th and 289th Regimental Combat Teams, having assembled in the Division area moved to take over front line positions. At 2330 the attached 290th Regimental Combat Team launched an attack to secure MLR in the zone of Combat Command Howze, by moving south from the HOTTON - SOY Road to occupy the defensive line: BLIER (P-4488) - HAMPTEAU (P-3886). No resistance was initially encountered. The 289th Regimental Combat Team (attached to the Division at 1300) moved at the same hour against no initial opposition to occupy a defensive line in the sector of Combat Command Hickey from GRANDMENIL (P-5290) to P-480870 to BLIER.

Task Forces Kane and Orr held positions at P-492842 (north of DOCHAMPS), and AMONINES (P-4487), respectively, while Task Force Richardson which held the road block at P-552870 (BELLE-HAIE) against heavy pressure, was attempting to withdraw its forces from the road block at P-554869 after it was bypassed by 8 enemy tanks and infantry, and enter the lines of the Airborne XVIII Corps. Combat Command Boudinot reverted to Division control at 1200 but was reattached to XVIII Corps at 1700.

75th Infantry Division

With all infantry units but the 1st and 3rd Battalions, 291st Infantry Regiment, detached, the Division remained in reserve, prepared to move to the vicinity of SOUTE LEUZE (P-3195). Engineers protecting the bridge at PETIT HAN (P-3695) were strafed by a lone enemy plane (ME-109) which was shot down by 2nd Platoon, Battery D, 440th Antiaircraft Artillery (AW) Battalion, protecting the Division.

Artillery

84th Division: Fired 181 missions as follows: 59 close support, 116 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3457.

2nd Armored Division: Fired 29 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 5 personnel, 4 close support, 1 counterbattery, 6 tank, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1267.

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Corps: Fired 93 missions as follows: 2 preparation, 6 personnel, 2 counterbattery, 3 tank, 74 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1465.

Antiaircraft: At 1245 2 ME-109's flew over the zone of fire of Btry C, 438th AAA (AW) Bn (at that time in the old VII Corps sector). The enemy craft were in pursuit of a P-51 and the proximity of the friendly craft limited engagement to 6 rounds of 40mm fire with no claims made. At 1400 Battery C, 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged 2 ME-109's under 90mm range with 250 rounds of .50 calibre MG fire, making no claims. (No other action for the 24 hour period ending 240600).

Tank Destroyers: The 638th TD Bn (SP) expended 11 rounds of 76mm HE and 4 rounds of 76mm APC knocking out a MK III tank and 4 armored vehicles.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 118.

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The Corps continued its bold plan to hold its long defensive sector and during the day further stabilized its flanks, tying them in more firmly with adjacent units and generally strengthening its front line defenses. Several enemy attacks were repulsed and heavy enemy losses were inflicted on h the enemy in the VERDENNE (P-3384) and CELLES (P-0584) areas, with more than 500 prisoners being captured. The enemy's only success was achieved at HUMAIN (P-2281) which he had lost the previous day. After driving our forces out of the town, they succeeded in reentering, and again he succeeded in driving them out in a see-saw battle.

In view of the all out effort of the enemy, the strength he had succeeded in building up, and the success he had achieved, VII Corps was directed to assume a defensive mission with the objective of stablizing the right flank of the First U.S. Army. The following instructions were received on 24 December by the Commanding General, VII Corps:

"1. In compliance with instructions received from Field Marshall Montgomery, Commander-in-Chief, 21st Army Group, Commanding General First United States Army, is endeavoring to shorten the line now held by First Army units to halt the advance of the enemy and stabilize the line."

"2. For the time being, the VII Corps is released from all offensive missions and will go on the defensive with the objective of stabilizing the right flank of First United States Army. Commanding General, VII Corps, is authorized to use all forces at his disposal to accomplish this job. Commanding General, VII Corps, is authorized, whenever in his opinion he considers it necessary, to drop back to the general line: NADENNE - HOTTON - MANHAY. In the event the line drops back this far, the bridge at ANDENNE will be secured. Firm contact on the left will be maintained with XVIII Airborne Corps in the vicinity of MANHAY."

While these instruction released VII Corps from offensive action, it did not prohibit the Corps from attacking.

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By falling back to the line of ANDENNE-HOTTON-MANHAY, the VII Corps would have strengthened the defense lines of HUY (K-2316) and LIEGE (K-4789), but such a move would have exposed NAMUR (J-9611) and crossings of the MEUSE River to the enemy, making both CHARLEROI (J-6607) and BRUXELLES (J-6355) extremely vulnerable.

The Corps Commander chose to accomplish his mission by resorting to active defense tactics and launched a series of limited objective attacks to prevent a dangerous concentration of enemy strength at any single point.

During 25 December enemy activity began at the start of the period when nine tanks of the 2nd SS Panzer Division knocked out our road blocks and entered the towns of GRANDMENIL (P-5290) and MANHAY (P-5390) and the area to the north thereof. However, with the coming of light the enemy was forced to fight continuously to retain his gains and by nightfall had been forced to withdraw from the area and lost MANHAY.

The 116th Panzer Division, one half hour prior to attacking in the VERDENNE (P-3384) area, was engaged by our troops and suffered heavy casualties, loosing approximately 320 men in prisoners alone. His tanks operating in this area assumed a defensive role than the offensive, and by the close of the period his infantry was observed digging-in.

The 2nd Panzer Division was checked in its movements to the northwest when it engaged the 2nd Armored Division and was progressively forced from FOY NOTRE DAME (P-0486), BOISSELLES (P-0485) and CELLES. The 2nd Panzer suffered severe losses in both men and equipment in this engagement with our armor. In HUMAIN the enemy was able to hold the town by employing seven tanks and 100 infantry, although he lost heavily when a motor column moving north from a point one mile southwest of the town was engaged by our artillery.

Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command supported units of First U.S. Army, flying 482 sorties and dropped 158.75 bombs, plus 2 fire bombs (165 gallon) and 16 rockets. A total of 24 missions were flown attacking targets in the battle area with ST. VITH the focal point of sighting and claims against enemy armor and motor transports. A considerable amount of motor transportation was also attacked in the area north of PRUM (L-0679) and to the west in the MARCHE area.

In the area as a whole, 275 motor transports were destroyed and 165 damaged; 50 armored vehicles destroyed and 20 damaged. These results were augmented by an RAF Group which attacked tanks and motor transports in the ST. VITH area with good results.

2nd Armored Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, and 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry, attached): CELLES (P-0584) was captured and cleared of enemy; in the woods east of the town an enemy force was surrounded, 13 self-propelled 105mm guns were captured intact, and gains were also made south of BUISSONVILLE (P-1982). Heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy along the Division front with over 470 prisoners reported captured. Cavalry elements were fighting to regain HUMAIN (P-2381) at the close of the period after having been forced to withdraw twice.

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84th Infantry Division (Task Force Dean of 3rd Armored Division, attached): Maintained its defensive positions, successfully repelling enemy attacks in the vicinity of VERDENNE (P-3384). Heavy losses were inflicted upon enemy personnel, a number of tanks destroyed, and an enemy group of infantry supported by several tanks surrounded just north of VERDENNE. Over 200 officers and men of the 3rd Battalion, less Company L, 335th Infantry, which had been cut off, succeeded in getting back into our lines.

3rd Armored Division (less Task Force Dean, with 289th and 290th Regimental Combat Teams of 75th Infantry Division, and 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion, and 1st Battalion, 517th Parachute Infantry, both of 82nd Airborne Division, attached): While Task Force McGeorge attacked to recapture GRANDMENIL (P-5290), Task Force Kane established road blocks at P-514-868, P-504860, P-500869, and the two attached Regimental Combat Teams pushed south to reach objective lines. Task Force Richardson after being cut off in the vicinity of MALEMPRE (P-5680) destroyed its equipment and infiltrated back to friendly lines. Task Force Hogan still remained isolated at MARCOURAY (P-4381) at the close of the period. Combat Command Boudinot reverted to Division control.

75th Infantry Division (less 289th and 290th Regimental Combat Teams, and 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry): Continued in Corps reserve, assembled in the vicinity of SOMME LEUZE (P-3195).

2nd Armored Division

The Division was ordered to attack 25 December to seize CELLES (P-0584), CONJOUX (P-0985), VERRE (P-0881) and GENDRON (P-0382), reconnoiter to the Corps right flank maintaining contact with British reconnaissance elements east of the MEUSE River, maintain positions in the FRANDEUX (P-1780) - BUISSONVILLE (P-1882) - HAVRENNE (P-2181) - HUMAIN (P-2381) area and prevent any penetration of its zone from the south or any envelopment of MARCHE (P-2983) from the southeast. The attack was to be continued the following day to eliminate remaining enemy resistance.

Combat Command White moved from the CINEY (P-1291) area at 0830 in two columns with the objective of capturing CELLES and CONJOUX, and the high ground in the vicinity of P-050935 and in BOIS DE HUBERMONT (P-035845). Light resistance was encountered initially and reconnaissance revealed SORINNE (P-0388), FOY NOTRE DAME (P-0486) and BOISSELLES (P-0485) clear of enemy at 1100 hours. While Task Force A moved in to secure BOISSELLES at 1135, Task Force B was seizing and securing CONJOUX. At 1200 artillery engaged an enemy column of 17 vehicles, 7 of which were MK IV tanks and all of which were destroyed in BOIS DE GEAUVELANT (P-060864). By 1415 Task Force B had secured SORINNE (P-0683) and at 1750 the principal objective of CELLES had been seized by the Combat Command. An enemy force in the BOIS COREUX (P-0685) east of the town was completely surrounded with Task Force A at P-065850 while Task Force B held elements at P-063837 and P-048834. A total of 13 enemy self-propelled (105mm) guns were captured intact when they ran out of fuel. Meanwhile VERRE was cleared by Task Force C which advanced to the vicinity of FAYS at P-105895 at the close of the period.

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At 0900 hours Combat Command Collier attacked to secure HAVRENNE, HUMAIN and ROCHEFORT (P-2076). The column ran into enemy tank fire in the woods at P-195815 and the advance was halted until our artillery "stonked" the enemy from positions in the vicinity of BUISSONVILLE (P-1982) at a range of 2000 yards. The remnants of the enemy column retired in confusion. HAVRENNE was captured and held at 1610 hours, and the Combat Command continued southwest to Bloar FRANDEUX (P-1780). At the close of the period Task Force A held positions at P-210810 and P-173803; Task Force B was in BUISSONVILLE, while Combat Command Stokes and the attached 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry, occupied MOHIVILLE (P-1994) and SOY (P-1992), respectively.

The reinforced 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron completed the occupation of HUMAIN at 0130 hours, while elements screened the gap between Combat Command Collier and the 84th Division on the left. At 0700 tank supported enemy infantry drove the Squadron out of HUMAIN. The 759th Light Tank Battalion was ordered to JAMODINE (P-2382) to support the attack to retake the town. Reconnaissance elements started working their way into the town dismounted at 1300, and succeeded in penetrating the northeast edge but were driven out after a bitter fire fight.

A company of medium tanks and a platoon of 90mm self-propelled tank destroyers from Combat Commands Collier and Stokes were dispatched to reinforce the attack on HUMAIN. Two task forces were organized and attacked at 1600. The one attacking from the northeast was stopped 500 yards from the town by Mark V tank fire from protected positions. The other force attacking from the south was also stopped by Mark V fire from the edge of the woods southeast of the town. The fight continued and at the end of the period dismounted troops from both forces were closing in on the town.

Meanwhile elements of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron maintained contact with the British, reconnoitering to the LESSE and MEUSE Rivers and screened the gap between Combat Commands Collier and White. The Squadron held positions at CONNEUX (P-0986) and LA GRANDE AGAUCHE (P-0688) at the end of the day. The 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion also reconnoitered to the west, covering the CINEY - DINANT (O-9888) Road without making contact with the enemy. Patrols reached the LESSE River between P-1276 - P-0580, and contact was made with the 29th (British) Armored Brigade.

84th Infantry Division

Assigned the mission of continuing to secure the MARCHE (P-2983) - HOTTON (P-3687) line in the center of the Corps sector, the 84th Infantry Division maintained its defensive positions and successfully repelled enemy attacks in the vicinity of VERDENNE (P-3384) inflicting heavy losses on the foe.

Shortly after the start of the period elements of the 334th Infantry and the attached 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, defending the sector in the vicinity of VERDENNE, attacked enemy troops concentrating in the town. This surprise attack was successfully accomplished and positions were consolidated in preparation for a counter-attack, which the enemy launched. During this

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action an enemy force of approximately two reinforced battalions was cut off in the 334th Infantry sector. During the day elements of the 334th Infantry were engaged in mopping up and destroying this force and very heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy, including 6 tanks destroyed. Some resistance still remained late in the day. Some enemy succeeded in infiltrating into VERDENNE and at the close of the period 2 tanks and about 70 infantry were surrounded just north of the town.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions and Company L, 335th Infantry, with the attached 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, maintained defensive positions on the right of the Division sector with little physical contact with the enemy along the main defensive positions. Elements of the 3rd Battalion, less Company L, which had been out of contact in ROCHEFORT (P-2076) since 0900 of 24 December, made contact with the Division. Approximately 200 men of the Battalion arrived in GIVET (O-9376) and were enroute to rejoin their Regiment. Two officers and thirty enlisted men from the same unit, succeeded in making their way into the 2nd Armored Division's lines and were transported back to the Division. Task Force Doan remained in the vicinity of P-3088, while the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 335th Infantry held positions at P-258833 - P-273819, and P-308818 - P-320833 with Company L at P-288839. Units of the 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, occupied positions as follows: Company E, P-280859, Company G, P-275808, and Company F, P-295826. The 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, occupied BOURDON (P-3385).

3rd Armored Division

The Division was given the mission of organizing and defending the line: WERPIN (P-3987) - AMONINES (P-4487) - along AISNE River to LA POSSE (P-5088), maintaining contact with elements of the XVIII Corps on the left, attacking to seize GRANDMENIL (P-5290) and forming a junction with XVIII Corps at the road intersection at P-522900, and occupying, organizing and defending at all costs the area: (1) road intersection at P-522900 - road junction at P-511896 - point at P-515905; (2) the high ground at LA POSSE (P-5088). Beginning 25 December the Division was also to organize complete defensive positions in the areas: (1) high ground between FAYSTREVAL - NEUCOYE (P-4991) and (2) town of NORMONT (P-4793).

At 0023 word was received that 8 enemy tanks supported by infantry had penetrated the road block at P-575853. By 0330 the town of MANHAY (P-5390) had been taken and the enemy were in GRANDMENIL (P-5290). Elements of Task Force Richardson of Combat Command Hickey which were maintaining a road block at BELLE-HALE (P-5587) were isolated, and after withdrawing to the northeast under very heavy enemy pressure were forced to abandon and destroy their vehicles near MALEMPRE (P-5689). The majority of the force fought through to friendly infantry and eventually returned to their units. Road blocks east of GRANDMENIL likewise were forced to withdraw.

Orders were issued for the blocks to be restored and Task Force McGeorge of Combat Command Boudinot was assigned the mission of taking CR (P-525901) in conjunction with an attack launched by the 289th Infantry in the sector of Combat Command Hickey toward its objective, defense line of AISNE River to LA POSSE. Upon completion of this mission Task Force McGeorge

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was to be relieved by the 3rd Battalion, 289th Regimental Combat Team.

The attack was launched at 1600 with only elements of the Task Force. An initial advance of 700 yards was made, at which time direct anti-tank and heavy weapons fire was received from GRANDMENIL and tanks were unable to advance. The remainder of Task Force McGeorge was committed, and with infantry leading, the advance was continued. Heavy anti-tank and tank fire was received throughout the attack. In conjunction with the attack on GRANDMENIL by Task Force McGeorge, the attack of Combat Command Hickey (RCT 289) toward its objective continued throughout the day. The attack was launched at 0730 and steady progress was made in spite of strong enemy resistance and the objective reached. The 289th Infantry held defensive positions in the sector of Combat Command Hickey as follows: P-483874 - P-477868 - P-468869; 2nd Battalion, P-501882 - P-488871; 3rd Battalion, P-509893 - P-503886, along its objective line.

Combat Command Boudinot remained attached to XVIII Corps until 0830, at which time it reverted to Division control. Task Force McGeorge moved rapidly into the zone of Combat Command Hickey and attacked against dug-in tanks and infantry to restore positions in GRANDMENIL and by the end of the period elements had reached the town. The remainder of Combat Command Boudinot assembled in the Division area. Units secured the objective high ground on the right flank of the Division in the vicinity of P-3890 and the CR at MELREUX (P-3689).

Task Force Kane, reinforced by Company A, 290th Infantry, and Task Force Orr remained in defensive positions at AMONINES, and holding road blocks at FREIMEUX (P-5186), LAMORMENIL (P-5086) and vicinity of HAIE DE BERGISTER (P-5087), and maintained contact with adjacent units without change. Units of the 290th Infantry advanced against moderate resistance in the zone of Combat Command Howze to establish a defensive line on the right of the Division continuing the attack begun at 2300 of the previous day. Although initial progress was made, heavy automatic weapons, small arms and artillery fire in the vicinity of P-4087 delayed the advance of the 3rd Battalion. The 1st Battalion, 517th Parachute Infantry, which was in the vicinity of HAMPTEAU moved east to assist the attack and the combined efforts overcame the resistance and the advance continued with the objective line being reached and final security measures taken. Positions were organized along the line: WERPIN - AMONINES as follows: 3rd Battalion, P-414-873 - P-396868, 2nd Battalion and 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion, P-416873 - P-435876, 1st Battalion, less Company A, P-465902. Combat Command Howze moved to WERPIN (P-3987) and P-435876.

Task Force Hogan remained isolated in the vicinity of MARCOURAY (P-4381) and when the third attempt to supply the cut off group by air was cancelled at 1500 a radio message was sent by the Task Force to the Division requesting information on adjacent units. At 1950 a message was received by the Division that the men would attempt to infiltrate through enemy territory to their own lines during the night. All equipment was destroyed. At the close of the period no word had been received of the arrival of any of the Task Force.

Artillery

84th Division: Fired 229 missions as follows: 3 preparation, 32 per-

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sonnel, 14 mortar, 33 close support, 1 counterbattery, 15 tank, 128 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6465.

2nd Armored Division: Fired 76 missions as follows: 15 preparation, 12 close support, 7 counterbattery, 18 tank, 3 interdiction and harassing, and 21 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2476.

Corps: Fired 148 missions as follows: 83 personnel, 4 counterbattery, 35 tank, 18 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2683.

No detailed report was available from 3rd Armd Div; however, the Div Arty was extremely active during the period and was instrumental in breaking up an enemy attack on the Div left flank early 25 Dec. The majority of missions were on columns and assembly areas of enemy vehicles, tanks and infantry.

Except for one light battalion which did not fire, the Arty organic and attached to the 75th Inf Div continued to fire under 3rd Armd Div. (3rd Armd Div FDC did not become operative until the night of 26-27 December.)

Antiaircraft: Division AA battalions engaged 2 ME-109's at 1230, 2 more at 1310, and a single FW-190 at 1400, claiming four planes destroyed. No units of the 109th AAA Gp were engaged during the 24 hour period ending at 0600. All btrys of the 116th AAA Gun (90mm) Bn occupied anti-tank positions with some guns being emplaced for a dual purpose role.

Tank Destroyers: The 702nd TD Bn (SP) knocked out a Mk V Tank, a Mk III Tank, a self-propelled gun, 2 anti-tank guns, 2 150mm Arty pieces, an armored car, 1 personnel carrier, and 8 general purpose vehicles, expending 93 reunds of 90mm HE and 110 rounds of 90mm APC, direct fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 529.

26 DECEMBER 1944

The sector held by VII Corps continued firm and was strengthened during the day all along the front as all attacks of the enemy to penetrate our line were repulsed without loss of ground while heavy losses were suffered by the enemy. For the second consecutive day 2nd Panzer Division was badly mauled by our right flank elements which further stabilized their positions. It was estimated that only 10 tanks of the 100, 2nd Panzer Division had upon commitment, were now operational.

Mopping up operations were completed in the GRANDMENIL (P-5290) and all positions restored, over tow-thirds of the woods east of CELLES (P-0584) was cleared of encircled enemy, about 90% of the personnel of Task Force Hogan which had been cut off for several days without supplies in HARCOURAY (P-4381) made their way into our lines after destroying their equipment, and the Corps was reinforced by the attachment of the 83rd Infantry Division, units of which had began to arrive in the Corps area prior to the close of the period.

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Enemy activity began at 0600 when elements of 116th Panzer Division attacked VERDENNE (P-3384) again, and infiltrated approximately 100 men and 9 tanks into the area. Before the day was over 4 tanks had been lost and the remaining armor and men were forced to withdraw. Likewise another force of about 100 infantry and 5 tanks resisted our mopping up operations in the area of BOURDON (P-3385) until nightfall when they too withdrew to the south.

The 2nd Battalion, 3rd Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 2nd SS Panzer Division, supported by tanks fought in GRANDMENIL until 1630 when they withdrew leaving at least one disabled tank behind. Attempts to infiltrate into the areas northeast of GRANDMENIL and MONINES (P-4487) were unsuccessful. The 9th Panzer Division, employing 33rd Panzer Regiment and 11th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, was active in the HAVRENNE (P-2180) - HUMAIN (P-2381) area. An attempt to envelop the former town from the northeast with 10 tanks failed, resulting in heavy vehicular loss to the attackers.

In HUMAIN the enemy was able to maintain his positions for the second consecutive day. In the CELLES area, 2nd Panzer Division, using elements of all three regiments, made local thrusts with heavy casualties to break through to the north or to escape from the woods in which his surrounded units were being subjected to mopping up operations. During the period 47 enemy tanks were destroyed.

Three groups of IX Tactical Air Command fighter-bombers flew 24 armdd reconnaissance missions in the break-through area. ST. VITH (P-8588) was again the focal point for sightings and claims against enemy motor transports and armor. More or less continuous attacks by all squadrons against a more air defense conscious enemy resulted in claims of 18 armored vehicles and 90 motor transports destroyed and 23 armored vehicles and 40 motor transports damaged.

2nd Armored Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, and 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry, attached): Repulsed enemy attack at HAVRENNE (P-2180) destroying 7 Mark V tanks and other vehicles, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy; made good progress in clearing encircled enemy from BOIS COREUX (P-0685), smashing a counter-attack and destroying all armor in the break-out attempt; had the better of day long fighting at FRANDEUX (P-1780), while the enemy managed to hold HUMAIN (P-2381). At least 7 enemy attacks were rolled back during the period.

84th Infantry Division (Task Force Doan, 3rd Armored Division, and 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, 83rd Division, attached): Attacked to eliminate a pocket of enemy just north of VERDENNE (P-3384) and repelled an enemy attack toward the town. Other attacks were successfully repulsed without loss of ground in the vicinity of HAMPTEAU (P-3886), and between MENIL (P-3685) - HARENNE (P-3485).

3rd Armored Division (289th and 290th Regimental Combat Teams of 75th Infantry Division, and 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion and 1st Battalion, 517th Parachute Infantry, of 82nd Airborne Division, attached): Attacked and cleaned out enemy in GRANDEMENIL (P-5290) area against stubborn resistance. Enemy infiltrations were contained. Task Force Hogan succeeded in returning from MARCOURAY (P-4381) trap with 90% personnel. Units prepared to regroup.

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75th Infantry Division (less 289th and 290th Regimental Combat Teams and 1st Battalion, 291st Infantry): Continued as Corps reserve, assembled in the vicinity of SOMME LEUZE (P-3195).

83rd Infantry Division (less 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry): Attached to VII Corps at 1400 hours, and began move from the area west of DUREN (F-1146) Germany approximately at the same time. 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, was attached to 84th Infantry Division. The 330th Infantry, less 1st Battalion, closed in the vicinity of SOMME LEUZE (P-3195) area as Corps reserve and the 329th Infantry in the vicinity of HAVELANGE (P-2201) area by the close of the period.

2nd Armored Division

Task Force A of Combat Command Collier, which was preparing to move to the aid of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in taking HUMAIN (P-2381), was attacked from south of HAVRENNE (P-2180) by 15 Mark V tanks supported by infantry at 0720. In the fight that ensued the enemy force was routed by 1200 leaving behind 7 destroyed Mark V tanks, 2 Mark IV's, 2 halftracks, and a self-propelled anti-aircraft gun, besides receiving heavy casualties in personnel. By 1515 a strong road block had been established at RJ (P-197808). Other elements were engaged most of the period with unsuccessful enemy attacks at FRANDEUX (P-1780). Task Force C of Combat Command Collier established road blocks and maintained contact along the road between VERRE (P-0880) and RJ (P-1784) by 1900. At the close of the period Task Forces A, B, and C were respectively holding the following positions: P-210810 and P-173803, P-197808, and P-178843 - P-086807.

At 1000 Task Force A of Combat Command White attacked to clean out the enemy encircled in the BOIS COREUX, east of CELLES (P-0584) which the Combat Command was holding. Although the enemy resisted strongly and heavy fire was received from the woods, good progress was made. Elements of the Combat Command destroyed at least 6 Mark V tanks and several self-propelled anti-tank (88mm) guns in the vicinity of P-065805. The Combat Command was attacked in the vicinity of P-069830, south of SOINNE, during the afternoon by 7 Mark V tanks and infantry in an effort to reach the pocket in the BOIS COREUX, but the infantry were forced to withdraw when all their tanks were knocked out. The 1st Battalion, 67th Armored Regiment repelled two counter-attacks along the road southeast of CELLES. Combined artillery and air support destroyed 5 and immobilized several more Mark V tanks on this road.

Meanwhile the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued its fight to regain HUMAIN (P-2381). After their dismounted attempt to enter the town was halted by extremely heavy fire and both the north and south columns forced to fall back early in the period, HUMAIN was subjected to a heavy artillery concentration and shelled with mortars using WP in preparation for another attack. Around 0300 hours orders were received from the Commanding General of Combat Command Collier, to discontinue the attack, strengthen positions at JAMODINE (P-2583) and establish blocks in the woods to the northwest. All troops at the disposal of the Squadron were used to accomplish this mission which was completed by 0600 hours. Outposts were established and patrols initiated to the south. The remainder of the period was spent in observing

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and engaging enemy movement in and out of the town, with the following results: 2 tanks, 2 American half-tracks, a quarter-ton vehicle, an anti-tank gun, weapons carrier, supply truck and 4 German half-tracks destroyed.

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron maintained road blocks and patrolled to the right flank to the west and southwest. Together with the 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion the area between the P-040818 and a point at Q-995865, northeast of LESSE River was seized, and contact established with the 29th (British) Armored Brigade at P-023828 and at P-034880.

During the day 7 enemy attacks were repulsed, at least 20 Mark V tanks were destroyed or disabled, while air support destroyed or disabled 18 Mark V tanks and knocked out at least 8 self-propelled (88mm) anti-tank guns. While only about 100 prisoners were taken the number of casualties inflicted on the enemy in killed and wounded was very high.

84th Infantry Division

The 334th Infantry on the left of the Division sector, attacked at 0300 to mop up the pocket of enemy tanks and infantry north of VERDENNE at P-330856 - P-345862. Stubborn opposition was encountered from the trapped enemy, and before much progress had been made enemy tanks supported by infantry attacked toward VERDENNE at about daylight. This action in the right sector of the 334th Infantry was repulsed by heavy artillery fire. However, the enemy attacked again at 0800 with tank-infantry teams and succeeded in penetrating the left sector of the Regimental area for a distance of about 100 yards and 4 tanks broke through to join the 5 encircled behind our lines. The original lines were restored by 0945 and mopping up operations begun.

At 1015 elements of the 334th Infantry supported by a Chemical Company attacked the pocket of nine tanks and enemy infantry, and succeeded in knocking out four tanks. During the afternoon the road block at P-395-860 was pushed back to HAMPTEAU (P-3886) where a fire fight developed and the enemy was forced to withdraw. Following a 2 minute artillery preparation elements of the Regiment attacked the remaining five enemy tanks and infantry in the pocket north of VERDENNE at 1700, but little success was achieved. At 1900 hours, an enemy attack with 12 tanks supported by infantry between [illegible] (P-3685) and [illegible] (P-3485) was hurled back with heavy losses. Again at 2215 another enemy attack was launched in the sector between P-347850 - P-3[illegible]2841, mainly in the area held by Company K, which likewise failed to produce any success for him, and three more enemy tanks were knocked out.

During the day many small task forces launched attacks against the 334th Infantry positions, all of which were repulsed and at least 8 of his tanks were destroyed with others damaged and severe losses in personnel inflicted by the defenders. Company C outposted the line: P-386858 - P-367843 with other units holding positions as follows: Companies I and A, 334th Infantry, P-320834 - P-325838 - P-332841; Company L, 333rd Infantry, VERDENNE (P-3384); Companies L and K, 334th Infantry, P-3[illegible]5 - P-350850 - P-360857; Company I, 333rd Infantry, P-360851 - P-369868; Companies E and G, 334th Infantry, P-369868 to HAMPTEAU (P-3386); Company F, 334th Infantry,

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southeast of HOTTON along OURTHE River (P-371880) - (P-378876); Companies C and B, 334th Infantry, in reserve at P-323847 - P-335854, and 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, BOURDON (P-3385).

On the right of the Division front, held by the 335th Infantry with the 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, attached, a number of small enemy reconnaissance units were repulsed during the day, but no large scale enemy attacks developed. The 3rd Battalion, less Company L, closed in the vicinity of MARCHE (P-2984). Front line units held positions as follows: Company G, 333rd Infantry, P-278803 - P-285799 - P-289803; 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, P-278803 - P-289803 - P-322833. Other units in immediate reserve positions were deployed as follows: Companies F and E, 333rd Infantry, P-295827 and P-280857; 1st Battalion, 335th Infantry, P-283833 - P-255816 - P-253833. Task Force Doan remained at P-3088.

3rd Armored Division

Task Force McGeorge of Combat Command Boudinot, continued to operate in the sector of Combat Command Hickey and at 0830 resumed the attack in conjunction with the 3rd Battalion, 289th Infantry, to seize and secure GRANDMENIL. Progress was slow due to the enemy's stubborn resistance with the attackers meeting tank, anti-tank, artillery and mortar fire, but by 1500 our forces entered the town and at 1800 reported it secure.

Physical contact between Combat Command Hickey and elements of the 7th Armored Division, which had previously secured MANHAY (P-5390), had not been made at the end of the period, but plans were made for the 7th Armored Division to send patrols out along the west side of the road from P-510914 to contact elements of the Combat Command at road junction (P-525900). This route was selected in order to by-pass 4 dug-in enemy tanks in the vicinity of P-525906. Other elements of Combat Command Hickey improved defensive positions during the period, and Task Force Kane withdrew from road block defenses under the cover of darkness and closed in assembly area behind the Combat Command lines.

While Task Force McGeorge was operating with Combat Command Hickey, other elements of Combat Command Boudinot maintained road blocks and previous positions with the exception of Task Force Hogan. After destroying its equipment in MARCOURAY (P-4381) elements of the encircled Task Force infiltrated back into the Division lines during the night of 25-26 December. This operation was commenced at 1800 on 25 December and by 1300 of the following afternoon the last elements had reached our lines.

Attached infantry units continued to hold the front lines without change while the Division Reserve, Combat Command Howze remained in WERPIN (P-3987) with units at P-433876. Task Force Orr held HAMBINES (P-4487). Companies A and D of the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, respectively attached to Task Forces Hogan and Kane, rejoined the parent unit, while Companies B-C remained attached to Task Force Orr.

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Artillery

84th Division: Fired 216 missions as follows: 2 preparation, 30 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 48 close support, 11 tank and vehicle, 118 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5685.

2nd Armored Division: Fired 65 missions as follows: 3 preparation, 31 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 9 close support, 18 tank and vehicle, 2 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3357.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 122 missions as follows: 3 preparation, 22 personnel, 30 close support, 4 counterbattery, 20 vehicle and tank, 36 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3527.

Corps: Fired 192 missions as follows: 8 preparation, 3 personnel, 16 close support, 5 counterbattery, 19 vehicle and tank, 124 interdiction and harassing, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4006.

Arty of 75th Division continued to operate under 3rd Armored Division.

The 84th Division Arty arrived in the Corps sector during the period and went into assembly areas in the vicinity of HAVELANGE (K-2201) and NEUFCHATEAU (P-2330).

Antiaircraft: Units of Btry A, 438th AAA (AW) Bn at P-328944 were bombed and strafed by 2 of 4 lightnings (P-38's) with reported British markings. These aircraft were not engaged.

Tank Destroyers: All units employed direct fire with the following results and expenditures: 629th TD Bn fired 7 rounds of 3" HE knocking out a Mk V and a half-track; 635th TD Bn fired 16 rounds of 3" HE and 34 rounds of 3" APC destroying 5 Mk V tanks; 638th TD Bn fired 36 rounds of 76mm HE, 29 rounds of 76mm APC, and 4 rounds of 76mm WPAP (T-4) knocking out 2 Mk V's, 1 self-propelled gun and a MG nest; 702nd fired 36 rounds of 90mm HE and 109 rounds of 90mm APC destroying 5 Mk V's, 1 tank (type unknown), and a half-track.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 411.

27 DECEMBER 1944

Extremely heavy losses in personnel and equipment were inflicted on the enemy by our right flank units which recaptured HOUFFALIZE (P-2381) and advanced along a line of the LESSE River to ROCHEFORT (P-2076). Light contact with the enemy was made elsewhere along the front and regrouping, relief and reassembling of armored units were begun. About 775 prisoners were captured during the day.

In general the period was characterized by a marked decrease in the enemy's aggressiveness. The 2nd Panzer Division, withdrawing from the CELLES (P-0584) area, suffered heavy vehicular and personnel losses at the hands of our 2nd Armored Division, while isolated groups left in the

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woods were being mopped up. At least 59 known tanks of the Division had been knocked out. As told by numerous prisoners of war from that Division, orders had been issued for the withdrawal to the southeast, avoiding the roads and abandoning all equipment that could not be carried. Our patrols operating as far south as JEMELLE (P-2876) and ROCHEFORT (P-2076) made no contact with the Division, although prisoners taken in the latter town revealed the presence of the 902nd Regiment of the 130th Panzer (Lehr) Division in the area.

After holding positions in HUMAIN for two days, elements of the 11th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 9th Panzer Division, left the town before the end of the day. Both 116th Panzer and 560th Volksgrenadier Divisions were inactive during the period, posibly having taken up defensive positions to the rear. Our patrols reported only small arms fire encountered at CHAMPION PARENNE (P-3182), while personnel were observed laying mines. Further to the south dug-in infantry were met at P-290794 and P-208808. Except for an occasional round of 88mm or burst of machine gun fire falling in the GRANDMENIL area, no action was taken by 2nd SS Panzer Division within VII Corps zone. During the closing hours of the period an estimated company of infantry and one tank was being dispersed by our artillery fire in the vicinity of MARENNE at P-345842.

During the day 8 fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command per hour were available for the 2nd Armored Division and 84th Infantry Division, but were released for armed reconnaissance due to lack of suitable targets. The three groups put up by the IX Tactical Air Command in support of First U.S. Army claimed 22 enemy aircraft, 116 motor vehicles and 45 armored vehicles destroyed.

2nd Armored Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, and 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry, attached): Seized HUMAIN (P-2381) against stubborn resistance, cleared the wooded area east of CELLES (P-0584), destroyed 54 enemy vehicles, and 7 tanks, and captured intact 3 tanks, 13 artillery pieces, and 35 vehicles. Heavy casualties in personnel were inflicted on the enemy. In the afternoon units moved south to the general line of LESSE River with only moderate opposition from scattered pockets. Contact was maintained with adjacent units.

84th Infantry Division (Task Force Doan of 3rd Armored Division and 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, 83rd Infantry Division, attached): Regrouped, maintaining light contact with the enemy, cleaned out the enemy pocket in the vicinity of P-337851, and late in the period began active patrol reconnaissance along the Division front.

3rd Armored Division (less Task Force Doan, with 289th and 290th Regimental Combat Teams of 75th Infantry Division, and 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, attached): Maintained light enemy contact as units regrouped. 1st Battalion, 517th Parachute Infantry, cleared area and were enroute to 82nd Airborne Division, XVIII Airborne Corps.

83rd Infantry Division (less 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry): Units of the 329th Infantry were positioned to take over a portion of the 2nd Armor-

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ed Division sector, the 1st Battalion moving to the high ground in the vicinity of P-203779, 2nd Battalion, P-215845, 3rd Battalion, HUMAIN (P-2381). The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry, were at P-310957 and P-323958, respectively, in Corps reserve. Units of the 331st Infantry were located as follows: 1st Battalion, SCY (P-2092); 2nd Battalion, P-187863 with Company G at P-215892; 3rd Battalion, P-230903.

75th Infantry Division (less 289th and 290th Regimental Combat Commands, and 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry): 1st and 3rd Battalions, 291st Infantry, moved to the vicinity of VILLERS - STE GERTRUDE (P-4698).

2nd Armored Division

Operational plans for the day were to attack to seize HUMAIN (P-2381) and ROCHEFORT (P-2076) where relief of the Division units would be effected by elements of the 83rd Infantry Division upon arrival.

After being attached to Combat Command Collier, Combat Command Stokes attacked HUMAIN at 0800. Task Force A advanced to the northern edge of the town moderate against resistance; Task Force C enveloped the town from the south and southwest and at 1300 tanks of this latter force entered HUMAIN from the southeast and southwest. An estimated battalion of enemy infantry barricaded in houses and supported by anti-tank fire and small arms fire from the woods to the west were engaged. Fighting continued against fierce resistance with progress slow but steady. The last enemy strong point fell at 2330.

Meanwhile Combat Command Collier consolidated its forces early in the morning, dispersed enemy patrol activity in the vicinity of VERRE (P-0880), and at 1300 Task Force A attacked to secure objective line along the LESSE River. The road from VERRE to HAVERSIN (P-1994) was held with road blocks and patrols. Task Force A proceeded south in two columns to seize objectives in the vicinity of P-130775 (main road across the River to VILLERS-SUR-LESSE, P-1275) and P-165750, (road centers in the vicinity of LES-ESPECHES and north of HERAVE). These objectives were seized against moderate resistance at 2100; positions were consolidated and road blocks established, barring the enemy's north-east escape routes. Task Force C advanced south in two columns also late in the period toward ROCHEFORT. Task Force Chetfield consolidated positions along the north side of River DE ROCHETTE, a branch of L'HOMME just above where that stream joins LA LESSE, northwest of ROCHEFORT in the vicinity of P-198776. By the end of the period the other column, Task Force Triplet, had reached P-199776 on the western edge of ROCHEFORT against heavy resistance.

At 1530 Task Force A of Combat Command Stokes advanced from HUMAIN to the vicinity of P-214784 northeast of ROCHEFORT meeting heavy resistance in addition to the difficult terrain. The 4th Cavalry Group continued mopping up operations throughout the period in the woods northwest of VERRE-HAVERSIN Road.

Starting at first light Combat Command White continued to clear the enemy from the woods east of CELLES (P-0584). At 0800, 150 enemy surrendered in the vicinity of HUBAILLE (P-0685); 16 trucks, 2 Mk V tanks, a Mk

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IV, an armored (6 wheel) car, 3 armored (8 wheel) cars, 7 half-tracks, 5 sedans, 11 motorcycles, 2 motorcycles with side cars, 3 American 1/4 ton ("Jeeps") trucks, 7 volkswagons, 10 command cars, 9 - 105mm artillery pieces, 3 - 150mm artillery pieces, and a self-propelled 75mm gun were captured intact. At 1240 Combat Command White attacked south and captured the high ground in the vicinity of VERRE against moderate resistance and by 1500 had consolidated positions there. The 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion outposted LA LESSE River from its confluence with LA MEUSE, south of DINANT (O-9888) to the vicinity of HALTE (P-1076).

At 1045 an enemy column moving east to ROCHEFORT was engaged by the 14th Armored Field Artillery Battalion with remarkable success. In addition to two light tanks, 13 vehicles were destroyed, and 23 others damaged. The Division had processed 1032 prisoners as of 2400 for the operation to date (23-27 December, inclusive).

Combat Commands Collier and Stokes were in the process of being relieved by the 329th Regimental Combat Team of the 83rd Infantry Division at the close of the period, as the front lines moved south with the enemy being forced back on all fronts within the Division zone.

84th Infantry Division

Front line units continued to maintain and improve defensive positions with the enemy generally quiet along the front except for occassional small arms and mortar fire. Extensive reconnaissance patrolling was conducted. The 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, was relieved of attachment to the 335th Infantry at MARCHE (P-2984) at 2130, and Companies I and L, 335th Infantry, relieved Companies E and G, 333rd Infantry, in the line. On the left of the Division zone, the period was also relatively quiet. An enemy tank and approximately a company of infantry were routed by artillery fire. Preceded by a heavy artillery concentration a strong combat patrol went into the enemy pocket at P-337851, took 15 prisoners and found 3 enemy tanks knocked out. The 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, was relieved in the line by the 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, at 2330 and Company L of the former was in the process of being relieved by Company K of the latter.

3rd Armored Division

While the 289th Regimental Combat Team improved their front line defenses all other troops under the control of Combat Command Hidey regrouped and conducted rehabilitation and maintenance, except Task Force Doan which remained attached to the 84th Infantry Division. During the period Combat Command Boudinot assumed responsibility for the right portion of the Division sector with the 290th Regimental Combat Team holding the front line defenses. Organic units of the Command conducted maintenance and rehabilitation. Combat Command Howze assembled in the rear area and carried out similar operations. Companies C and B, 297th Engineer Combat Battalion, organized defense of MORMONT (P-4794) and occupied the town. Enemy activity was very light with only patrol action encountered and a few planes after dark.

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27 December SECRET

Artillery

84th Division: Fired 177 missions as follows: 7 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 19 close support, 8 tank, 132 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3222.

2nd Armored Division: Fired 39 missions as follows: 8 personnel, 4 close support, 4 tank, 10 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2016.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 126 missions as follows: 64 personnel, 10 close support, 2 counterbattery, 49 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3555.

Corps: Fired 51 missions as follows: 2 close support, 1 counterbattery, 23 interdiction and harassing, and 25 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1190.

Antiaircraft: The 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged 16 enemy aircraft in 5 separate raids at 2155-2213, 2234-2238, 2240-2254, 2305-2316, and 0116 hours, destroying 5. Automatic Weapons Battalions of the 109th AAA Gp also engaged enemy craft but the 90mm Battalion made the only claims. The 438th AAA (AW) Bn reported the enemy dropped flares but no bombs. The 557th AAA (AW) Bn with the 84th Infantry Division engaged 7 enemy aircraft between 2204 and 2325 hours, but made no claims. No other Division AA units were engaged.

Tank Destroyers: Direct fire was employed by the several battalions with the following results: The 638th TD Bn fired 20 rounds of 76mm HE, 13 rounds 76mm APC, knocking out 2 Mk V's and a half-track; 702nd TD Bn expended 4 rounds of 90mm HE, and 5 rounds of 90mm APC, destroying 1 Mk IV tank and 1 general purpose vehicle.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 775.

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Corps units continued regrouping. On the right flank the 2nd Armored Division moved up within its sector and was relieved of the left part of its long front by the 83rd Infantry Division which moved into the line. Active patrolling was conducted along the rest of the Corps front and contact maintained with the enemy. Firm contact continued with the British XXX Corps on the right and the American XVIII Airborne Corps on the left. Enemy infiltration in the vicinity of P-4789 was contained and a light attack against the 289th Infantry repulsed.

Beginning at 0330, the 2nd Battalion, 25th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 12th SS Panzer Division, infiltrated through our lines as far as [redacted] (P-4730), where they were checked and subjected to mopping up operations by our troops. This SS Division, a new arrival on the Corps front, took no further action until approximately 2100 hours, when an estimated company unsuccessfully probed our lines at P-407867, one mile east of [redacted], and at P-442870, south of [redacted]. At ROCHEFORT (P-2976) elements of the 10th Pz Grenadier Regiment, 9th Panzer Division,

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employing automatic and high velocity fires, resisted our advanced on the town, while elements of the 11th Panzer Grenadier Regiment along with stragglers from two Panzer Divisions were encountered in the WAHA (P-2881) area. Elsewhere along the Corps front enemy activity was purely defensive with the enemy using mortar and direct fire whenever his positions were approached.

The weather remained cold with snow falling intermittently throughout the period making visibility too poor to permit close support of Corps troops by fighter-bombers, although heavy and medium bombers continued to hit enemy installations behind the front lines. The 12th Army Group announced that in the 12 day period, 16-28 December, 1113 German planes had been destroyed and 578 others probably destroyed by our combined Air Force and Antiaircraft units. Of the 570 planes credited to the latter arm of the service, 135 were claimed by VII Corps and Division Antiaircraft Artillery from 16-21 December.

2nd Armored Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, attached): Mopped up isolated enemy in sector, began regrouping, with elements of the 83rd Infantry Division taking over part of the sector on the left at 2100. The 4th Cavalry Group and 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion patrolled L'HOMME and LESSE Rivers and maintained contact with the British.

83rd Infantry Division (less 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry): Assumed responsibility for part of 2nd Armored Division's sector at 2100. Elements of the 329th Infantry advanced to L'HOMME River north of ROCHEFORT (P-2076) meeting small arms and artillery fire from the town.

84th Infantry Division (Task Force Doan, 3rd Armored Division, and 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): Task Force Doan reconnoitered aggressively along the Division front, maintaining contact with the enemy and at the end of the period had reassembled in the vicinity of P-298877.

3rd Armored Division (less Task Force Doan, with 289th and 290th Regimental Combat Teams, 75th Infantry Division, and 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, attached): 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion engaged enemy in the strength of a battalion which infiltrated through the lines of the 289th Regimental Combat Team as far north as BRISCOL (P-4790) and cleared SADZOT (P-4789), which the enemy had completely occupied. Approximately 120 enemy were killed or captured. At the close of the period patrols were sweeping the woods in the vicinity of P-4788.

75th Infantry Division (less 289th and 290th Regimental Combat Teams): Was attached to XVIII (Airborne) Corps at 1200. 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry, which had been attached to 2nd Armored Division, returned to 75th Division control.

2nd Armored Division

During the period elements of the 83rd Infantry Division relieved units of Combat Command Collier at 1500 hours. The Command assembled generally

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in the rear of the infantry held front lines with sufficient tanks to cover the 4th Cavalry Group which covered that portion of the front of Combat Command Collier to L'HOMME River. Combat Command White regrouped with the 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion maintaining patrols along LESSE River, and established contact with the British south of the River. All possible rehabilitation of personnel and vehicles was carried out during the period.

83rd Infantry Division

After relieving elements of Combat Command Collier, 3rd Armored Division during mid-afternoon, units of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 329th Infantry, attacked ROCHEFORT (P-2076) at 1500 hours, employing two columns. Initial resistance was composed of small arms fire only, but as the town was neared, high velocity weapons opened up on accompanying tanks and the opposition considerably increased. However, Company B succeeded in entering the town at 1830 and at the end of the period the fight for ROCHEFORT was still in progress. The 3rd Battalion, 329th Infantry, maintained contact with the 1st Battalion, 335th Infantry, on the left in the vicinity of P-264812, and secured HUMAIN (P-2381).

The 331st Infantry organized a defensive line across the Division sector from P-190835 to P-252863 in the rear of the attacking elements of the 329th Infantry. The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, moved from the vicinity of OSSOGNE (K-2103) to HOGNE (P-2586) and began work on defensive positions from P-221847 to P-252863, while the 2nd Battalion held the right part of the sector from P-190835 to P-221847. The 3rd Battalion moved from the vicinity of OSSOGNE to BUISSONVILLE (P-1982) and established defensive positions in Regimental reserve. The 2nd and 3rd Battalion, 330th Infantry, remained in Corps reserve in assembly positions in the vicinity of SCHE LEUZE (P-3196). Thus all objectives were accomplished.

84th Infantry Division

While Task Force Lane reconnoitered to the line: Crossroad in CHAPLON (P-3869) - LA ROCHE (P-4577) in conjunction with patrols of the 83rd Infantry Division on the right, the 1st and 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 334th Infantry, and 2nd and 1st Battalions, 333rd Infantry, held front line defenses in that order from right to left across the Division sector. The 2nd Battalion relieved the 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, in the line and positions were improved with contact maintained between adjacent units. A small enemy force attacked in the center of the Division sector held by the 334th Infantry (vicinity of P-307845) at about 0115 hours. An artillery concentration on this force dispersed the infantry and scored 3 direct hits on tanks, two of which were found later burning in the woods. The attached 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry remained at VALLET (P-2687).

3rd Armored Division

During the early morning (about 0300 hours) enemy infantry, estimated at battalion strength, infiltrated between the defensive lines held by the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 289th Infantry, in the zone of Combat Command

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Hickey and penetrated as far north as BRISCOL (P-4790). The 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion was immediately moved to the vicinity of SADZOT (P-4789) with the mission of clearing out the area. Contact was made with the hostile infantry and mopping up operations were continued throughout the day. SADZOT, which had been completely occupied by the enemy was entirely cleared. More than 120 enemy were either killed or captured. At the close of the period the remnants of the enemy group were still in the woods in the vicinity of P-4788.

At 1200 the 2nd Battalion, 112th Regimental Combat Team, which was split from other units of the 28th Division during the German offensive and had been operating as a separate RCT with the XVIII Corps on the left of the 3rd Armored Division, moved into the sector of Combat Command Hickey. It plugged the gap between the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 289th Infantry, by attacking south and east and at the close of the period had moved well into the gap and was pushing patrols vigorously to make contact with the 2nd Battalion, 289th Infantry.

Elements of Combat Command Boudinot remained in rear of the defensive front lines and during the morning patrols pushed to the area: TRINAL (P-4186) - MAGOSTER (P-4286) - GRANDE-FANGE (P-4586). A small number of enemy infantry and machine gun positions were reported. Other elements maintained and strengthened defensive positions. A small enemy attack against the 3rd Battalion, 290th Infantry, occupying front line defenses from P-400866 to P-416871 was driven off without loss of ground.

Task Force Orr of Combat Command Howze moved from AMONINES (P-445873) to assembly positions in the rear area of the Division in the vicinity of P-4695. Other units of the Command held previous positions and locations without change. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion moved into position in the vicinity of CLERHEID (P-4790), prepared to assist the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion mop-up in the area south of SADZOT. Defensive positions were organized astride the GRANDMENIL (P-5290) - EREZEE (P-4550) Road and reconnaissance patrols were conducted in the area south of the road.

Artillery

83rd Division: Fired 37 missions as follows: 2 close support, 28 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1357.

84th Division: Fired 141 missions as follows: 5 personnel, 7 mortar and machine gun, 2 close support, 1 counterbattery, 1 tank, 122 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1988.

2nd Armored Division: Fired 4 missions -- 1 personnel and 3 interdiction and harassing -- expending 79 rounds.

3rd Armored Division (including missions fired by attached 75th Inf Div Arty): Fired 394 missions as follows: 117 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 53 close support, 12 counterbattery, 5 tank, 197 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 11,785.

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Corps: Fired 98 missions as follows: 11 counterbattery, 85 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2586.

Antiaircraft: No enemy aircraft were engaged or any hostile activity was reported by either Corps or division AAA units for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: All missions were direct fire with the following results and expenditures: 629th TD Bn fired 101 rounds of 3" HE and 1 round of 3" APC, knocking out a self-propelled gun and 1 armored car; 638th TD Bn fired 21 rounds of 76mm HE, 13 rounds of 76mm APC and 2 rounds of 76mm HVAP, results unknown; 702nd TD Bn fired 4 rounds of 90mm HE and 4 rounds of 90mm APC knocking out a Mk IV tank, and 2 general purpose vehicles.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 448.

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The Corps continued to improve defenses and to regroup. The XXX British Corps took over part of the sector of the 2d Armored Division. Enemy that had infiltrated into the sector held by the 289th Infantry were mopped up, and enemy pressure on the front of the 290th Infantry was eliminated. Active patrolling was conducted along the front of the 3d Armored Division and firm contact maintained with the British on our right flank and with the American XVIII Airborne Corps on the left. The boundary between the XVIII-VII Corps was set as follows:

Ford at P-436064 on l'OURTHE River and along the river to the bend just east of PETIT-BARVAUX at P-414973; southeast along the main road running southeast through EREZEE (P-4490) to AMONINES (P-4587); then a straight line running southeast to the western edge of SAMREE (P-5081). This change relieved the 3d Armored Division of the easternmost part of its large sector.

Enemy activity during the period was practically a repetition of that of the previous day. At 0315 hours approximately two companies of infantry infiltrated through our lines in the vicinity AMONINES-HAGOSTER (P-4288) where they spread throughout the woods westward toward HAUPTEAU (P-5886). As the infiltrators were mopped up, identifications of captives and bodies divulged the presence of the 3d and 4th Panzer Grenadier Regiments of the 2d SS Panzer Division.

While ROCHEFORT (P-2076) remained a strong point of dug-in tanks and direct fire weapons held by the 10th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 9th Panzer Division, the enemy elsewhere along the Corps front prepared defenses and resisted with anti-tank guns, mines and bazookas the advance of our patrols pushing to the south. With nightfall, further infiltrations were made in the woods west of GRANDMENIL (P-5290), in the vicinity of P-4939, this time by elements of the 12th SS Division.

The cold weather continued throughout the period and heavy ground fog which made visibility extremely poor and precluded all fighter-bomber support. Snow and ice continued to cover the ground. Armed reconnaissance missions were flown with claims of 101 motor transports, 66 armored vehicles and tanks, 126 railroad cars and 17 gun positions knocked out.

2d Armored Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, attached): Elements west of the line: CELSS (P-0584, - VERRY (P-0861), started the move to new assembly areas upon relief by units of the 53d Welsh (British) Division. Combat Command Hinds (Stokes) closed in an assembly area at P-2000, Combat Command Collier assembled at SCHAITIN (P-1490), and the 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion at P-2003. The 4th Cavalry Group continued to patrol along LESSE and L'HOMME Rivers.

83d Infantry Division (less 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, and Regimental Combat Team 331): Elements of 329th Infantry attacked to clear the enemy from the north bank of L'HOMME River in the vicinity of ROCHEFORT (P-2076), in preparation for return of Company E to the north side of the river during the night. The woods northeast of ROCHEFORT were swept for enemy.

84th Infantry Division (less Task Force Doan of 3d Armored Division, and 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): Adjusted positions and continued to improve defenses. Had light, scattered contact with the enemy.

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3d Armored Division (less Task Force Doan, with Regimental Combat Team 290 of 75th Infantry Division, Regimental Combat Team 331 of 83d Infantry Division, and 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, attached): Early in the period the enemy infiltrated through the lines of the 290th Infantry and Company G was forced to withdraw but by dawn the lines had been restored, and the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion and the 83d Armored Reconnaissance Battalion were mopping up the infiltrators. 289th Infantry and task forces patrolled to the front to maintain enemy contact, 2d Battalion, 112th Infantry continued efforts to seal the gap between 1st and 2nd Battalion. The 289th Regimental Combat Team reverted to 75th Division control at 1600.

2nd Armored Division

The Division continued mopping up operations and salvage of captured enemy equipment. Active patrolling was carried out along the line of the LESSE River by the 82d Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, and 4th Cavalry Group. Combat Command Hinds moved to a new assembly area at P-2000 at 1115 hours. Combat Command White was relieved by units of 158th Brigade, 53d Welsh Division (British) and moved to a new assembly area closing at 2100 hours in the vicinity of SCHAFTIN (P-1496). The 87th Armored Field Artillery Battalion remained in firing positions at P-096855 in support of the 158th Brigade. Combat Command Collier continued to be deployed as follows: Task Force A, P-163750 and P-130790; Task Force B, vicinity of P-1677; Task Force C, vicinity of P1483. In addition to carrying out regrouping for future operations, active defense of the sector was maintained, and maintenance of vehicles and rehabilitation of personnel was continued.

83d Infantry Division

Companies A, B, E, and G, 329th Infantry, attacked toward ROCHEFORT (P-2076) at 0730 with Company C joining the attack at 1115 hours. These units received heavy artillery and mortar fire, making progress slow. During the afternoon Company G swept the woods northeast of ROCHEFORT while other units of the 1st and 2nd Battalions cleared the enemy from the north bank of L'HOMME in the vicinity of the town. Company B crossed the river, took up positions at ROCHEFORT where they were isolated by enemy fire and was ordered to return during the night to the north side. Other units of the 1st Battalion held positions from P-202768 to P-200766 while the 2nd Battalion was in line as follows: Company F, P-213796 and P-213782 - P-220771; Company G, P-233788 - P-233771; Company E, P-208767. Regimental Combat Team 331 moved to the 3d Armored Division sector and the 2d and 3d Battalions, 330th Infantry were respectively in the vicinity of P-310957 and P-323958. The 3d Battalion, 329th Infantry remained in HUMAIN (P-2391).

84th Infantry Division

Positions were adjusted and defenses strengthened with the following changes made in the line: 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry, was relieved by the 2d Battalion, 334th Infantry, and closed in the vicinity of BOURDON (P-3385); 3d Battalion, 333d Infantry, was relieved in the line by the 2d Battalion, 333d Infantry, and closed in the vicinity of HOTTON (P-3687). All other units held the same positions as the previous period.

3d Armored Division

Effective at 1600 the boundary between VII Corps and XVIII (Airborne) Corps was changed placing the responsibility for the sector held by Combat Command Hickey

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with the XVIII Corps. Also effective at 1600 hours, Regimental Combat Team 289 was relieved from attachment and reverted to 75th Division control under XVIII Corps. The 509th Separate Parachute Infantry Battalion reverted to 82d Airborne Division control and the 2d Battalion, 112th Infantry, also passed to XVIII Corps. Task Force Doan continued under operational control of the 75th Infantry Division in the old sector.

Other elements of Combat Command Hickey continued operations to clean out enemy infantry that had infiltrated between the 1st and 2d Battalions, 289th Infantry and to close the gap between these two battalions. At 0820 hours, Companies A and C, 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion attacked from the line: P-485899 - P-484891 to destroy the enemy in their zone to the east. Company B, 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion, remained in position south of SADZOT (P-4789).

Contact was soon established with what was estimated to be 2 companies of enemy infantry and Company A, 83d Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, was sent in on the left of Company C, 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion. Initial resistance was overcome and three companies continued the advance to the east against rather light oppositions, and finally encountered none. The objective (LA FOSSE - GRANDMENIL Road) was reached at 2300 hours and the Reconnaissance Battalion Company rejoined its parent unit in the vicinity of CLERHEID (P-4790). The 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion was relieved of attachment and reverted to 82d Airborne Division control at 1600 hours.

The 2d Battalion, 112th Infantry, continued on its mission of closing the gap between the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 289th Infantry, and at the close of the period was engaged with dug-in enemy infantry in the vicinity of P-493882 with its right flank secured to the left flank of the 1st Battalion and its left flank only 400 - 500 yards from junction with the right flank of the 2d Battalion, 289th Infantry. The 2d Battalion, 112th Infantry, was prepared to move west to the point of contact with the 2d Battalion, 289th Infantry, as soon as the resistance at P-493882 was overcome. Moderate to heavy mortar and artillery fire was received in this area throughout the day with the heaviest concentration being placed in the vicinity of SADZOT and 1000 to 1500 yards to the north. Other elements of Combat Command Hickey held previous positions.

During the early part of the period the enemy succeeded in infiltrating patrols through the positions of the 1st and 2d Battalions, 290th Infantry in the sector of Combat Command Boudinot. These patrols were liquidated and, at the close of the period, no activity was reported on the 290th Infantry front. Reconnaissance elements of Task Forces Lovelady and McGeorge conducted aggressive patrolling on the front of the 290th Infantry, maintaining contact with the enemy. The patrol on the west route encountered enemy infantry and anti-tank guns in TRINAL (P-4186) and, after destroying a self-propelled gun and an estimated 35 enemy personnel, returned the vicinity of P-440862 and proceeded along the main road that parallels AISNE River to DOCHAMPS (P-4983) as far as P-453872 where an enemy road block caused it to withdraw.

Effective at 1900 hours, Regimental Combat Team 331 of the 83d Infantry Division was attached to the 3d Armored Division and at 2100 hours the last elements had closed in the area of Combat Command Boudinot and were digging in organizing positions in the vicinity of BIRON (P-3992) and NY (P-3969). Combat Command Howze remained in the same positions as the previous day without change, with units at MERIS (P-4394) and BELLE VUE (P-4397).

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29 December

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Artillery

83d Div: Fired 66 missions as follows: 2 close support, 2 tank, 39 interdiction and harassing, and 23 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1451.

8th Div: Fired 234 missions as follows: 9 personnel, 9 mortar and machine gun, 6 close support, 3 tank, 139 interdiction and harassing, 16 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2583.

2d Armd Div: Fired 3 close support missions, expending 132 rounds.

3d Armd Div: Fired 235 missions as follows: 23 personnel, 77 close support, 6 counterbattery, 2 tank, 118 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3881.

Corps: Fired 97 missions as follows: 4 counterbattery, 90 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1870.

Antiaircraft: Btry D, 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged a single enemy aircraft at 0353 hours and destroyed it. Btries A and B each fired 51 rounds of 90mm HE in support of VII Corps Arty on an enemy vehicle concentration at P-323745, which was unobserved. No division battalions were engaged during the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: An enemy general purpose vehicle was knocked out by the 702d TD Bn employing direct fire. The Battalion expended 60 rounds of 90mm HE, and 65 rounds of 90mm APC. The 636th TD Bn also used direct fire, expending 52 rounds of 76 mm HE and 2 rounds of 76mm APC.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 133.

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SECRET

30 DECEMBER 1944

Again Corps units had very light contact with the enemy. Regrouping continued among our troops which also improved defenses and maintained contact with adjacent British on the right and the XVIII Airborne Corps on the left. The Company of the 329th Infantry which had been isolated in ROCHEFORT (P-2076) successfully withdrew. The only other activity was routing patrolling along the Corps front.

All operations of the IX Tactical Air Command were curtailed due to the continued cold and snow with not even a weather reconnaissance mission being flown.

The period was characterized by an absence of enemy aggressiveness and by an incr increase in enemy artillery fire along the Corps front. Early in the period patrols found the enemy had yielded ROCHEFORT as far south as the railroad, leaving behind stragglers from the 10th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 9th Panzer Division, and from the remnants of the 2nd Panzer Division.

Other patrols operating south of the Corps front found the enemy in RENDEUX (P-4083), the TRINAL (P-4186) area, and the area 2000 yards south of MENIL (P-3685) emplaced behind defensive positions. The areas of HUMAIN (P-2381), MARCHE (P-2983), VERDENNE (P-3384) and HOTTON (P-3087) were targets for scattered enemy interdiction and harassing fires whose volume increased over the previous period.

2nd Armored Division (4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, attached): Continued assembly of elements on relief by British troops. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron remained in the sector of the 53rd Welsh Infantry Division (British), patrolling L'ROMME and LA LESSE Rivers between P-183753 and P-130765.

83rd Infantry Division (less 331st Regimental Combat Team and 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry): Was relieved by elements of the 160th Brigade, 53rd Welsh Division (British) effective at 1915 hours. Company B, 329th Infantry, which had been cut off in ROCHEFORT (P-2076) successfully withdrew, There was very little activity on the Division front.

84th Infantry Division (with Task Force Doan of 3rd Armored Division, and 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, 83rd Division, attached): Continued to improve positions.

3rd Armored Division (less Task Force Doan, with Regimental Combat Teams 290 and 331 of 75th and 83rd Infantry Division, res pectively, attached): Regrouped Combat Command Hickey, which completed its mission of mopping up infiltrated enemy behind the lines of the 289th Infantry, 75th Infantry Division, returned to Division control. Combat Comands Howze and Hickey and the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion moved to new assembly areas.

2nd Armored Division

Continued salvage of captured equipment, rehabilitation of personnel and vehicles, and patrolling of LA LESSE River by the 4th Cavalry Group in Combat Command Collier's sector. Combat Command Collier, less 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, was relieved by the 160th Brigade, 53rd Welsh Division (British), and moved to new assembly areas, closing at 2130 hours. The Combat Command's new location was in the vicinity of P-1996 and the 4th Cavalry Group less the

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24th Squadron were assembled at NEUFCHATEL (P-2391). The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron patrolled L'HONDT and LA LESSE Rivers between P-130759 and P-183753. The 92nd Armored Field Artillery Battalion remained in firing position to support the 53rd Welsh Division.

83rd Infantry Division

Company B, 329th Infantry, having been cut off from the 1st Battalion, 29 December in the town of ROCHEFORT (P-2076) was contacted by radio at 0930. At 1130 the Company had completely withdrawn, bringing with them 9 prisoners (3 officers and 6 enlisted men). The enemy had abandoned ROCHEFORT at 0300 hours. By 1915 all battalions of the Regiment had been relieved by the 160th Brigade, 53rd Welsh Division (British). The battalions moved back to assembly areas generally in the vicinity of their command posts and made preparations for movement to a new area. At the close of the period units were assembled as follows: 1st Battalion, P-206790 with Company B at HAVREMIX (P-1980,); 2nd Battalion, COBINETTE (P-2081); 3rd Battalion, JAMODIMS (P-2585). The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry remained in reserve in the vicinity of SOMME LEUZE (P-3196) while the 1st Battalion continued attached to the 84th Infantry Division. The 331st Infantry remained in positions under operational control of the 3rd Armored Division.

84th Infantry Division

All positions were improved and defenses strengthened with the only enemy action during the period being intermittent small arms and mortar fire along the front lines. The only change in the locations or disposition of troops was Task Force Doan, which moved to MARCHE (P-2984).

3rd Armored Division

Combat Command Hickey, less Task Force Doan, was relieved from operations in its old sector under control of the 75th Division at 1200 and moved to assembly area in the vicinity of HEURE (P-3554). Combat Command Boudinot continued to defend in the Division sector with the 290th and 331st Regimental Combat Teams attached. Defenses were improved and the 331st Infantry organized defensive positions south of the road from HOTTON (P-3087) to [illegible] (P-4590). Units of the Combat Command were located at SOY (P-4189) and [illegible]Y (P-3969). Combat Command Howze moved to a new assembly area in the vicinity of P-3107 at 1415, and the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion closed in the vicinity of P-2502 at 1530 hours.

Artillery

83rd Div: Fired 16 miscellaneous missions, expending 102 rounds.

84th Div: Fired 223 missions as follows: 11 personnel, 9 mortar and machine gun, 4 close support, 1 counterbattery, 2 tank, 188 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2419.

3rd Armd Div: Fired 97 missions as follows: 31 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 11 close support, 2 counterbattery, 43 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3203.

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Corps: Fired 104 missions as follows: 65 personnel, 3 counterbattery, 23 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1654.

2nd Armd Div Arty and Tank Destroyer units of the Corps and Divisions were not engaged during the period (301200 to 311200).

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 58.

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31 DECEMBER

Regrouping among Corps units continued with very light enemy contact. Liaison was maintained between the British units on our right and the XVIII Airborne Corps on our left and patrol contact continued. More snow and the continued cold weather curtailed all missions of the IX Tactical Air Command for the second consecutive day.

Enemy activity during the period again was negligible with only scattered mortar and light artillery fire falling at MARCHE (P-2983), VERDENNE (P-3384), HOTTON (P-3687), and AMONINES (P-4487), while a small convoy of light trucks was seen moving east in the vicinity of P-435845, southeast of BEFFE (P-4285). Artillery cub planes reported activity in the woods southeast of MARCHE.

The boundary between VII Corps and the British was set at the road from NAMUR (J-9611) to CR (P-1295) to HARGIMONT (P-2678) to P-3175.

2nd Armored Division: Remained in assembly area with no change in lines. 4th Cavalry Group reverted to Corps control.

84th Infantry Division (Task Force Doan and 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): Continued active patrolling of its front with the sector very quiet. 3rd Battalion 333rd Infantry relieved 1st Battalion in the line with the latter assembling at BOURDON (P-3385) at 2120 hours, and 2nd Battalion 334th Infantry relieved the 1st Battalion which assembled at BOURDON.

83rd Infantry Division (less 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, with 290th Regimental Combat Team, attached): Assumed responsibility for 3rd Armored Division's sector on the left flank of the Corps at 2400 hours. Regimental Combat Teams 331 and 290 passed to Division control. The 290th Infantry held defensive positions from P-400866 to P-452876 with the 3rd, 2nd and 1st Battalions in that order, and the 331st Infantry held positions on the RRL from HOTTON (P-3687) to EREZEE (P-4390). The 329th Infantry closed in the new area with the 1st Battalion at K-421024, 2nd Battalion at K-396027, and 3rd Battalion at K-382018, while the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry remained in Corps reserve at SOMME LEUZE (P-3195).

3rd Armored Division (less Task Force Doan, with 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached): Completed assembling. The 83rd Infantry Division assumed responsibility for the sector at 2400 hours and at the same time Regimental Combat Teams 290 and 331 passed to 83rd Division control. Location of units at close of the period was as follows: Combat Command Hickey, BENDE (K-3504); Combat Command Boudinot, vicinity of K-2802; Combat Command Howze, vicinity of K-3107, and the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, HAVELANGE (K-2301).

Artillery

83rd Div: Fired 69 missions as follows: 10 personnel, 8 mortar and machine gun, 4 close support, 1 counterbattery, 1 tank, 24 interdiction and harassing, and 21 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1580.

84th Div: Fired 137 missions as follows: 5 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 1 close support, 2 counterbattery, 2 tank, 116 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1620.

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Corps: Fired 109 missions as follows: 38 personnel, 5 counterbattery, 49 interdiction and harassing, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2163.

The artillery with the 2nd and 3rd Armd Divs, having moved into new assembly areas, did not fire during the period.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: Co C, 638th TD Bn, fired 27 rounds of harassing fire at a suspected enemy location.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 238.

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
A.P.O. #307
United States Army

SECRET
Auth: CG VII Corps
Init: N.M.d
Date: 9 Dec 1944

Copy 1 of 6 copies.

9 December 1944

SUBJECT: History of the VII Corps for the period of 1-30 November 1944, Incl (Report after action against the enemy).

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Through: Commanding General, First United States Army).

1. In compliance with letter 319.1/401, First United States Army, 13 July 1944, subject: Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports, the following report is submitted for the period 1-30 November 1944, Incl:

a. ORIGINAL UNIT:

No change.

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

(1) Assigned Corps troops as of 1 November 1944:

VII Corps
VII Corps HP Pl
VII Corps Arty
13th FA Obsn Bn
50th Sig Bn
50th Med Bn
109th AAA Gp
491st Collect Co
492nd Collect Co
500th [illegible] Co (1 Pl)
649th Clearing Co
1106th Engr C Gp

(2) Attached Corps troops as of 1 November 1944:

1st TD Gp
1st Spec Serv Co
4th Cav Gp Mecz
4th Cav Rcn Sq Mecz
5th MRU M
6th Armd Gp
10th Fin Disb Sec
14th Bomb Disp Sq
18th FA Gp Mtz
20th Bomb Disp Sq
24th Cav Rcn Sq Mecz
58th Armd FA Bn
58th Fin Disb Sec

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60th AGF Band
87th Cml Bn Mtz
87th Armd FA Bn
116th AAA Gun Bn
142d FA Gp Mtz
154th APU Type F
172d FA Bn 4.5 Gun
183d FA Bn 155 How
188th FA Gp Mtz
188th FA Bn 155 How
195th FA Bn 8" How
207th CIC Det
237th Engr C Bn
238th Engr C Bn
240th FA Bn 155 Gun
285th FA Obsn Bn
294th Engr C Bn
297th Engr C Bn
298th Engr C Bn
307th APU Type F
385th QM Tr Co
438th AAA AW Bn M
440th AAA AW Bn M
474th AAA AW Bn M
501st Engr Co Lp
507th Engr Co Lp
603d QM Grv R Co
612th Engr Co Le
634th TD Bn SP
635th TD Bn T
663d Engr Topo Co C
690th FA Bn 105 How
692d QM Bn
746th Tk Bn
751st FA Bn 155 How
759th TK Bn L
803d TD Bn SP
951st FA Bn 155 How
957th FA Bn 155 How
980th FA Bn 155 Gun
981st FA Bn 155 Gun
988th Engr Co TB
991st FA Bn 155 Gun
994th Engr TB Co
1120th Engr C Gp
2892d Engr Tl Tm Co
3251st Sig Serv Co
3279th QM Serv Co
389d QM Trk Co

1ST INF DIV
1st Engr C Bn
1st Med Bn
1st Sig Co

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1st QM Co
1st Rcn Trp Mecz
1st Inf Div MP Pl
1st Div Band
1st Div Arty
5th FA Bn 155 How
7th FA Bn 105 How
16th Inf Regt
18th Inf Regt
26th Inf Regt
32d FA Bn 105 How
33d FA Bn 105 How
701st Ord Lm Co
1st CIC Det
103d AAA AW Bn M
745th Tk Bn

3d ARMD DIV
Hnt Bn 3d Armd Div
Sup Bn 3d Armd Div
3d Armd Div Train
23d Armd Engr Bn
32d Armd Regt
33d Armd Regt
30th Armd Inf Regt
45th Armd Med Bn
54th Armd FA Bn
67th Armd FA Bn
83d Armd Rcn Bn
143d Armd Sig Co
391st Armd FA Bn
486th AAA AW Bn SP
503d CIC Det
703d TD Bn SP

9th INF DIV
9th Med Bn
9th Sig Co
9th QM Co
9th Rcn Trp Mecz
9th Inf Div MP Pl
9th Inf Div Band
9th Div Arty
15th Engr C Bn
20th FA Bn 105 How
34th FA Bn 155 How
39th Inf Regt
47th Inf Regt
60th Inf Regt
60th FA Bn 105 How
84th FA Bn 105 How
709th Ord Lm Co

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9th CIC Det
376th AAA AW Bn M
899th TD Bn SP

AUTH: Morning Report, 5th MMU, Hq VII Corps, 1 Nov 44

(Note: 9th Inf Div, less 47th Inf Regt, 84th FA Bn, Co B, 9th Med Bn, 1st Plat, Co B, 15th Engr Bn, 899th TD Bn, Co A, 740th Tk Bn, Btry D, 376th AAA Bn, 294th Engr C Bn, Hq & Hq Btry, 138th FA Gp, 172d FA Bn (4.5 G), 951st FA Bn (155 H), 981st FA Bn (155 G), Btry C, 199th FA Bn (8" H), Co's C & D, 87th Cml Bn, passed to control of V Corps on order First Army effective 251200A Oct.

AUTH: Opns Memo 110, Hq VII Corps, 24 Oct 44.)

(3) Attachments:

Effective 8 Nov, 4th Inf Div (less RCT 12), 70th Tk Bn, 801st TD Bn (T), and 377th AAA AW Bn (M) are relieved from attachment to V Corps and are attached to VII Corps on order First Army.

4th Div units incl:
4th Engr C Bn
4th Med Bn
4th Sig Co
~~4th Sig Co~~
4th QM Co
4th Recn Trp Recn
4th Inf Div MP Pl
4th Div Arty
8th Inf Regt
12th Inf Regt
20th FA Bn 155 How
22d Inf Regt
29th FA Bn 105 How
42d FA Bn 105 How
44th FA Bn 105 How
704th Ord LM Co
4th CIC Det

Effective 8 Nov, 104th Inf Div, 705th Tk Bn, 692d TD Bn (T), and 555th AAA AW Bn are attached to VII Corps on order First Army.

104th Inf Div incl:
104th Sig Co
104th QM Co
104th Recn Trp Recn
104th Inf Div MP Pl
104th Inf Div Band
104th Div Arty*
329th Engr C Bn

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329th Med Bn
385th FA Bn 105 How
386th FA Bn 105 How
387th FA Bn 155 How
413th Inf Regt
414th Inf Regt
415th Inf Regt
804th Ord Lm Co
929th FA Bn 105 How
104th CIC Det

Effective 060800A, 18 FA Bn (4.5" Rocket) and 196th FA Bn (75mm How) are relieved from attachment to 422d FA Gp and are attached to VII Corps in present locations.

AUTH: Opns Memo 115, Hq VII Corps, 7 Nov 44.

On order First Army the following units are attached to VII Corps:

CCR, 5th Armd Div effective 091600A.
Btry A, 987th FA Bn (155 G) (SP) effective 091600A.
413th AAA Gun Bn effective 090600A and is attached to 109th AAA Gp.

AUTH: Opns Memo 116, Hq VII Corps, 10 Nov 44.

On order First Army, 4th Cav Gp reverts to control VII Corps effective 11 November.
On order First Army, 32d FA Brig is attached to VII Corps effective 101200A.
The following units attached to VII Corps are further attached to 32d FA Brig effective 101200A:

Hq & Hq Btry, 179th FA Gp
Hq & Hq Btry, 79th FA Gp
285th Obsn (FA) Bn (less Btries, A, B, & 2 survey parties)
153d FA Bn (8" G)
266th FA Bn (240 H)
268th FA Bn (8" G)
551st FA Bn (240 H)
552d FA Bn (240 H)

AUTH: Opns Memo 117, Hq VII Corps, 17 Nov 44.

On order First Army, 5th Armd Div (less CCR) passes to control VII Corps effective 291200A

AUTH: Opns Memo 123, Hq VII Corps, 30 Nov 44.

(4) Detachments:

Effective 070800A, Btry A, 285th FA Obsn Bn is relieved from attachment VII Corps and is attached in present location to VIII Corps.

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AUTH: Opns Memo 115, Hq VII Corps, 7 Nov 44.

CCR, 5th Armd Div reverts to control V Corps 192400A. On order First Army 18th FA Bn (4.5 rocket) is relieved from attachment VII Corps and is attached to V Corps effective 200600A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 118, Hq VII Corps, 19 Nov 44.

Effective 280600A Nov, following units revert to control First Army in their present locations:

Hq & Hq Btry, 32d FA Brig
Hq & Hq Btry, 79th FA Gp
Hq & Hq Btry, 179th FA Gp
266th FA Bn (240 H)
551st FA Bn (240 H)
552d FA Bn (240 H)
153d FA Bn (8" G)
268th FA Bn (8" G)
285th FA Obsn Bn (less Btries A & B)

AUTH: Opns Memo 122, Hq VII Corps, 28 Nov 44.

The following units are relieved from attachment VII Corps and are attached to V Corps effective 300600A.

413th AAA Gun Bn (M)
440th AAA AW Bn (M)

AUTH: Opns Memo 123, Hq VII Corps, 30 Nov 44.

c. STRENGTH:

Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army, as of 1 Nov 44:

92 Officers
15 Warrant Officers
337 Enlisted Men

Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army, as of 30 Nov 44:

93 Officers
14 Warrant Officers
263 Enlisted Men

Net gain for period: 1 officer, - 1 Warrant officer, and - 74 Enlisted Men.

VII Corps, U. S. Army, as of 1 Nov 44: 73,276.

VII Corps, U. S. Army, as of 30 Nov 44: 87,111.

Net gain for period: 13,835.

AUTH: Morning Reports 5th Armd, Hq VII Corps.

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NOTE: Does not include units attached for operations only.

d. STATIONS:

Kornelimunster, Germany.

AUTH: Morning Report of Hq Co, VII Corps.

e. CAMPAIGNS:

(1) Continued the advance east in Germany toward the Rur River, clearing areas of the Hurtgen and Konigl Forest, and capturing many inhabited areas, including the city of Eschweiler.

(2) To destroy the enemy on its front, seize crossings of the Rur River and drive to the Rhine River.

(3) Duration: 1-30 Nov 44 (latter phase not completed).

f. BATTLES:

✓ See narrative report(Appendix No. 1)

g. COMMANDING OFFICERS:

(1) Corps Commander: Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins.
(2) Division Commanders:

1st Inf Div: Maj Gen Clarence R. Huebner.
4th Inf Div: Maj Gen Raymond O. Barton.
104th Inf Div: Maj Gen Terry de la M. Allen.
3d Armd Div: Maj Gen Maurice Rose.
5th Armd Div: Maj Gen Lunsford E. Oliver.

(3) Corps Arty: Brig Gen Williston B. Palmer.

h. LOSSES IN ACTION:

(1) Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army:

Phyllis, Lloyd D., 36478720, T/5, Ord, 14th Ord Bomb Disp Sq (Sep) LWA, 14 Nov 44 Germany.
Dierking, Herbert W., 32318343, Pvt, QMC, 1st Plat, 506th QM Car Co, LWA, 14 Nov 44, Germany.
Hollinshead, John R., O-327349, Capt, CE, Hq VII Corps, SWA, 13 Aug 44, France (not previously reported).
Christensen, Clarence M., 37309607, Pvt, Inf, Hq Co VII Corps, SWA, 13 Aug 44, France (not previously reported).
Condon, Harry D., O-1315440, 1/Lt, Inf, 2 Info & Hist Serv, SWA, 21 Nov 44, Germany.
Dorsey, Ridgely C., 33541299, T/5, Inf, 2 Info & Hist Serv, SWA, 21 Nov 44, Germany.

AUTH: Morning Reports, Hq Co VII Corps.

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(2) VII Corps, U. S. Army:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTAL
Officers	101	339	52	0	492
Enlisted Men	1115	6770	1043	1	8929
Grand Total	1216	7109	1095	1	9421

There were no casualties among warrant officers.

AUTH: 5th MRU, Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army.

(NOTE: Does not include troops attached for operations only).

i. FORMER & PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:

(1) AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and Circular #66, Headquarters First United States Army, dated 18 May 1944, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men:

LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEVE J. NEWTON, JR (then Major) 0371040 Ordnance Department, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 28 March 1944 to 30 August 1944 in England and France. Entered military service from Maryland.

AUTH: General Order, No. 79, Hq VII Corps, 22 Nov 44.

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER EARL M. WILLIAMS W2114245, United States Army, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 17 October 1943 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered the military service from Alabama.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 72, Hq VII Corps, 2 Nov 44.

MASTER SERGEANT BERNARD E. BAGWELL 36030013, Chemical Warfare Service, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 25 October 1943 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered the military service from Illinois.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 76, Hq VII Corps, 15 Nov 44.

TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE ARTHUR E. LINVILLE 37506811, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery VII Corps Artillery, United States Army, for heroic achievement in action against the enemy on 21 October 1944 in Germany. Entered military service from Missouri.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 77, Hq VII Corps, 17 Nov 44.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS CHARLES C. FAULKNELL 35510084 Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery VII Corps Artillery, United States Army,

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(2) VII Corps, U. S. Army:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTAL
Officers	101	339	52	0	492
Enlisted Men	1115	6770	1043	1	8929
Grand Total	1216	7109	1095	1	9421

There were no casualties among warrant officers.

AUTH: 5th MRU, Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army.

(NOTE: Does not include troops attached for operations only).

i. FORMER & PRESENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION:

(1) AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and Circular #66, Headquarters First United States Army, dated 18 May 1944, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded to the following officers and enlisted men:

LIEUTENANT COLONEL STEVE J. NEWTON, JR (then Major) 0371040 Ordnance Department, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 28 March 1944 to 30 August 1944 in England and France. Entered military service from Maryland.

AUTH: General Order, No. 79, Hq VII Corps, 22 Nov 44.

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER EARL M. WILLIAMS W2114245, United States Army, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 17 October 1943 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered the military service from Alabama.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 72, Hq VII Corps, 2 Nov 44.

MASTER SERGEANT BERNARD S. BAGWELL 36030013, Chemical Warfare Service, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 25 October 1943 to 6 June 1944 in England. Entered the military service from Illinois.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 76, Hq VII Corps, 15 Nov 44.

TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE ARTHUR E. LINVILLE 37506811, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery VII Corps Artillery, United States Army, for heroic achievement in action against the enemy on 21 October 1944 in Germany. Entered military service from Missouri.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 77, Hq VII Corps, 17 Nov 44.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS CHARLES C. FAULKNELL 35510084 Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery VII Corps Artillery, United States Army,

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for heroic achievement in action against the enemy on 21 October 1944 in Germany, Entered military service from West Virginia.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 77, Hq VII Corps, 17 Nov 44.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS HUGH L. FULLER, 37459791, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery VII Corps Artillery, United States Army, for heroic achievement in action against the enemy on 21 October 1944 in Germany. Entered military service from Wyoming.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 77, Hq VII Corps, 17 Nov 44.

PRIVATE CHARLES G. McMILLIAN 37502472, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery VII Corps Artillery, United States Army, for heroic achievement in action against the enemy on 9 July 1944 in France. Entered military service from Missouri.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 74, Hq VII Corps, 12 Nov 44.

PRIVATE ERNEST C. SCHNITZER 37459657, Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery VII Corps Artillery, United States Army, for heroic achievement against the enemy on 9 July 1944 in France, Entered military service from Wyoming.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 74, Hq VII Corps, 12 Nov 44.

II — AWARD OF PURPLE HEART MEDAL:

Under the provisions of AR 600-45 dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and Circular No. 66, Headquarters First United States Army, dated 18 May 1944, as amended, the Purple Heart Medal is awarded the following enlisted men:

TECHNICAL SERGEANT THOMAS S. IANNACCONE 36197709 Ordnance Department, Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for wounds received in action against the enemy on 2 November 1944 in Germany. Entered military service from Michigan.

AUTH: General Orders, No. 79, Hq VII Corps, 22 Nov 44.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS TORRENCE W. REEDER 20326471 Corps of Military Police, Military Police Platoon VII Corps, United States Army, for wounds received in action against the enemy on 19 October 1944 in Germany. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

j. PHOTOGRAPHS:

(1) See Inclosure No. 9.
(2) Additional photographs covering the period of this report will be submitted as received from Army Pictorial Services.

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
A. P. O. 307, U.S.Army

K

1 December 1944

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

ASSIGNMENT	NAME	RANK	ASN	BRANCH	COM-PONENT
COMMANDING GENERAL	J LAWTON COLLINS	Maj Gen	05247	USA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	JOHN J WALSH	Capt	0391208	FA	RES
Aide-de-Camp	FRANCIS X DRISCOLL	1st Lt	0420039	Inf	RES
CORPS ARTY COMMANDER	(1)WILLISTON B PALMER	Brig Gen	012246	USA	RA
Asst Arty Commander	(1)LENNEL MATHEWSON	Col	014980	FA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	(1)WILLIAM W CARSON Jr	1st Lt	0440408	FA	RES
CHIEF OF STAFF	RICHARD C PARTRIDGE	Col	012630	GSC	RA
Deputy Chief of Staff	HOWARD S SEARLE	Col	0123165	GSC	NG
Liaison Off	GIBSON S PETERSON	Maj	0363904	Cav	RES
Liaison Off	JOHN C HARRISON	Maj	0342679	QMC	RES
Liaison Off	WALTER W DILLARD	Capt	0327063	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES C JOHNSON	Capt	0304772	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES W GORMAN	Capt	0285768	FA	RES
Liaison Off	CHARLES W BAER	Capt	0361373	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	WILLIAM W MAXEY	1st Lt	0117[illegible]792	FA	AUS
Liaison Off	(2)GEORGES PAGACHE	Aspirant			
Chief Clerk	WILLIAM R MADDOCK	WOJG	W2131284	USA	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-1	JOHN D HIGGINS	Col	0152349	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	EDWARD M FRIEND Jr	Lt Col	0310219	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE E FOWLES	Maj	0309793	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	(2)MURRAY A CLYBURN	Maj	0347661	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE M RISER	Capt	0228767	FA	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-2	LESLIE D CARTER	Col	010663	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2	DAVID R GOODWIN	Lt Col	021914	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2(Air O)	WILLIAM C JESSE	Lt Col	0302902	Cav	NG
Asst A C of S G-2	KENNETH L HOUSTON	Maj	0326319	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	JOHN W STARK	Maj	0330508	CAC	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	CARL J WILSON	Capt	0383386	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	IGNACE L EPERUSSI	1st Lt	0574526	AC	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	CHARLES J BRUCKEN	1st Lt	01002589	ACD	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	PRESTON M MARKWARD	WOJG	W2131280	USA	AUS
	OB UNIT NO 6				
	(2)ALEXANDER BLAZEVICIUS	1st Lt	01296983	Inf	AUS
	PI TEAM NO 10				
	(2)LOUIS BAFT	Capt	01045664	CAC	AUS
	(2)MORRIS GLASS	1st Lt	01994434	AUS	AUS

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	(2)THOMAS P CORREAL	Capt	01110429	CE	AUS
	(2)PATSY M MIRAGLIA	1st Lt	01591321	QMC	AUS
	IFW TEAM NO 16				
	(2)MAX SCHLOSSBERG	1st Lt	01162701	FA	AUS
	IFW TEAM NO 36				
	(2)JOHN P [illegible]	1st Lt	01180419	FA	AUS
	(2)ARTHUR [illegible]	2d Lt	01099427	AUS	AUS
	IFW TEAM NO 44				
	(2)ADAM J [illegible]	Capt	0393829	CAC	RES
	FI TEAM NO 129				
	(2)EYVIND JACOBSEN	2d Lt	01302976	Inf	AUS
	MII TEAM NO 402G				
	(2)HALMUT STRAUSS	2d Lt	0555188	AUS	AUS
	MII TEAM NO 419				
	(2)PIERRE P LaBRECHE	1st Lt	01303258	Inf	AUS
	(2)MAX OPPENHEIMER Jr	2d Lt	01999024	AUS	AUS
	21ST WEATHER SQ DET "[illegible]"				
	LUCIUS A PERRY Jr	Capt	0362518	AC	AUS
	ELBERT C HERRICK	2d Lt	0865488	AC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-3	ORLANDO C TROXEL Jr	Col	018487	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-3 (Air O)	THURSTON T PAUL Jr	Lt Col	0342848	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT W DUKE	Lt Col	0365127	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	[illegible]	Lt Col	0246714	FA	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	BERTIN V DICKEY	Lt Col	0360244	Inf	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT J ROSA	Maj	0352011	Cav	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	[illegible] R DICKSON	Maj	0395040	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	JOSEPH V PAGE Jr	Capt	0390720	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	FRANCIS P MORLEY Jr	Capt	0390599	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	NICHOLAS McINTIRE	2d Lt	01049982	CAC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-4	JAMES G ANDING	Col	015677	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-4	THOMAS N FIGUERS	Lt Col	0398172	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-4	WILLIS H ROSS	Maj	0270426	CE	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	LEA C ROBERTS	Maj	0349693	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	IRA J HOLTON	Maj	0453734	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	ALFRED F MOFFITT Jr	Capt	0316233	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	EVERT HEATH	1st Lt	01304211	Inf	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-5	DELL B HARDIN	Col	0171321	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	FRANK H McFARLAND	Lt Col	0190171	GSC	NG
	Mr L. W. FORSYTHE	AMERICAN RED CROSS			

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*Directory of Offs. Hq VII Corps
1 Dec 1944 continued.

ADJUTANT GENERAL	LAWTON BUTLER	Col	016921	AGD	RA
Asst AG	JACKSON C RAINES	Lt Col	0264141	AGD	RES
Asst AG	ROBERT J SMITH	Maj	0348305	AGD	NG
Asst AG	FRED O BERGMAN	Capt	01000913	AGD	AUS
Postal Off	(3)JAMES A DOLAN	1st Lt	01297855	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	EARL M WILLIAMS	CWO	W2114245	USA	AUS
Asst AG	(4)CARL A ALIFANO	WOJG	W2109898	USA	AUS
	5th MRU (M)				
Asst AG	HAROLD K DOWNEY	Capt	01283046	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	FRANCIS L GUILFOYLE	1st Lt	01001796	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	WILLIAM H MUSSER Jr	1st Lt	01002998	AGD	AUS
	APU 154				
	DAN W SCANNELL	1st Lt	01000855	AGD	AUS
INSPECTOR GENERAL	JOHN W NICHOLSON	Col	05608	IGD	RA
Asst IG	MILES M CULEHAN	Lt Col	0132387	IGD	NG
Asst IG	ROBERT L SNYDER	Maj	0303549	IGD	RES
Asst IG	(2)VICTOR A DARLING	Capt	0329375	IGD	AUS
Asst IG	LEONARD HOFFMAN	CWO	W2114256	USA	AUS
JUDGE ADVOCATE	RICHARD F WELCH	Col	0225556	JACD	RES
Asst JA	EDWARD L VanRODEN	Lt Col	0139950	JACD	RES
QUARTERMASTER	PAUL E WARFIELD	Col	0248401	QMC	NG
Asst QM	JOHN G TAPP	Lt Col	0329067	QMC	RES
Asst QM	(2)JUAN A PALERM	Maj	0325000	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HERMAN B BOWLE Jr	Maj	0393313	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HARRY F HUTFLAS	1st Lt	01110576	QMC	AUS
Asst QM	(2)NED L ARCENEAUX	WOJG	W2109890	USA	AUS
SURGEON	ROBERT H BARR	Col	0240710	MC	RES
Asst Surg	JAMES R FAUCHER	Lt Col	0360582	MC	NG
Asst Surg	JOSEPH E BANKS	Maj	0496405	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	NORMAN C ROBISON	Maj	0472662	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	(2)JAMES T ASCH	Capt	0447621	MC	RES
Chief Clerk	LAWRENCE A BECCO	CWO	W2114253	USA	AUS
FINANCE OFFICER	ELMER A STROM	Col	0232150	FD	NG
Asst Fin Off	ANDREW S DONNELLY	1st Lt	02040990	FD	AUS
Asst Fin Off	(4)LESLIE R HOCUM	CWO	W2109871	USA	AUS
CHEMICAL OFFICER	JACK A BARNES	Lt Col	0283115	CWS	RES
Asst Cml Off	IRWIN W SHUTT	Maj	0346833	CWS	RES
ENGINEER	MASON J YOUNG	Col	03788	CE	RA
Asst Engr	HENRY M BLACK	Lt Col	0259095	CE	RES
Asst Engr	GLENN H PLUMLEE	Maj	0352959	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ALBION W KNIGHT	Capt	0366716	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ROBERT M GILLESPIE	Capt	0364884	CE	RES
Asst Engr	PHILIP E SMITH	Capt	01102061	CE	AUS

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ORDNANCE OFFICER	ARTHUR H LUSE	Col	07537	Ord Dept	RA
Asst Ord Off	MARTIN F SHAUGHNESSY	Lt Col	0323425	Ord Dept	NG
Asst Ord Off	SAMUEL M COHEN	Maj	0422951	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	RICHARD A GRINNELL	Maj	0392097	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN SUNTEK	Capt	0387454	Inf	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN C BELLOWS	Capt	0416205	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	WILLIAM D HALL Jr	WOJG	W2120959	USA	AUS
SIGNAL OFFICER	JOHN A SAWYER	Col	017177	Sig C	RA
Asst Sig Off	CHARLES T WESNER	Maj	0276309	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	HUGH SMITH (DS)	Capt	0351848	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	EMMET F PORTER	Capt	0377498	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	JOHN BRAWLEY	Capt	01634554	Sig C	AUS
Asst Sig Off	VICTOR G FLORENCE	CWO	W2109861	USA	AUS
	165th Sig Photo Co Det "B"				
	RALPH M TUDOR	1st Lt	01638694	Sig C	AUS
CHAPLAIN	F HERBERT MOEHLMANN	Col	017986	Ch	RA
Asst Ch	PATRICK J GLEESON	Lt Col	0325091	Ch	RES
	SIDNEY M LERKOWITZ (DS)	Capt	0471729	Ch	AUS
SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER	ROBERT P WILSON	Maj	0289950	Inf	NG
Asst Sp Sv Off	(2)WILLIAM C SMITH Jr	1st Lt	0375518	FA	RES
PROVOST MARSHAL	(4)JOHN D BRADLEY Jr	Lt Col	0341714	Cav	RES
Asst PM	(4)ROBERT L RICHTERS	Capt	0437731	Inf	RES
AIR SUPPORT PARTY OFF					
FR HQ IX FI COMD	(2)SIDNEY F BRODY	Maj	0429833	AC	NG
	(2)JACK B AMPHILIE	Capt	0735015	AC	RES
CIC DET NO 207					
COMMANDING OFFICER	JAMES K DORSETT Jr	Maj	0362283	Inf	RES
Executive	JOHN H HEMENWAY	Capt	01302652	Inf	AUS
	EDWARD C STOLLENWERCK	1st Lt	01304812	Inf	AUS
	CLARENCE SCHLUTER	1st Lt	01544090	AUS	AUS
	JOHN H REBER	2d Lt	0887407	AUS	AUS
	DANIEL R BADGER	2d Lt	0887384	AUS	AUS
	FENTON MORAN	2d Lt	01996388	AUS	AUS
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY VII CORPS					
HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT	LAWRENCE L LARSEN	Capt	0352065	Inf	RES
Executive Off	FREDERICK FERGUSON	Capt	0388735	Inf	RES
Supply Off	SHELWOOD V GREGORY	1st Lt	01296594	Inf	AUS
Asst Supply Off	JOHN J McGEE	1st Lt	0532462	Inf	RES
Personnel Off	JAMES L HAYES	CWO	W2116181	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES L WHITEHURST	CWO	W2109673	USA	AUS
Asst Supply Off	FREDERICK D KEIM	WOJG	W2110[illegible]	USA	AUS
Asst Motor Off	MAX A LOOMIS	WOJG	W2[illegible]	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES F BROWN	WOJG	W2116197	USA	AUS

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Director of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
1 Dec 1944 continued.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT VII CORPS

Medical Off	THEODORE S WRIGHT	Capt	0500245	MC	AUS
Dental Off	RUDOLPH J FALKIN	Capt	01689861	DC	AUS
Medical Off	(5)LUTHER P LEWIS	Capt	01696250	MC	AUS
Medical Off	(5)WILLIAM A BENDER	Capt	01695377	MC	AUS

1ST PLAT 506th QM CAR Co

COMMANDING OFFICER	OLIVER P DAVIS	1st Lt	01581650	QMC	AUS
DUTY UNANNOUNCED	(2)OWEN H CARTER	Maj	0334313	Inf	RES
	(2)FRANK P FRESCH	Maj	0467963	JAGD	AUS
	JAMES G WILLIAMSON(DS)	Maj	0406586	CAC	
	VERNON W WHITE (DS)	Capt	0390831	Sig C	RES
	(2)STANLEY A SARGENT	Capt	01040299	CAC	AUS
	(2)WILLIAM C PHELPS	Capt	0436838	Cav	RES
	(2)PIERRE FRENSS (Fr)	Capt			
	(2)WILLIAM R DALTON Jr	2d Lt	01049121	CAC	AUS
	(2)DAVID E DAVIS	2d Lt	01306561	Inf	AUS
	(2)FRED L HADSEL	2d Lt	01799048	CMT	AUS
	(2)ROBERT H CULVER	2d Lt	0530743	Sn C	AUS

AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR — CHARLES C BROADDUS

AMERICAN RED CROSS CLUBMOBILE UNIT "D"

GROUP CAPTAIN — HOPE J SIMPSON
Asst Group Captain — SUS H BOYLE

Note: (1) indicates asgd Hq & Hq Btry VII Corps Arty
(2) indicates atchd to Hq VII Corps
(3) indicates CO 307th AFM
(4) indicates asgd to Hq Co VII Corps
(5) indicates atchd to Med Det VII Corps

Lawton Butler
LAWTON BUTLER,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General

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VII Corps
Aviation reports
Jan 1945

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
APO 307 U.S. Army

: S
:Auth. CG VII C:
:Init: N.M.D. :
:Date: 1 Feb 45:

1 February 1945

Copy 1 of 6 copies

SUBJECT: History of VII Corps for the period of 1 - 31 January 1945, Incl (Report after action against the enemy).

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Through Commanding General, First United States Army.)

1. In compliance with letter 319.1/401, First United States Army, 13 July 1944, subject: "Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports," the following report is submitted for the period 1 - 31 January 1945, Incl:

a. ORIGINAL UNIT:

No change.

b. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION:

(1) Assigned Corps troops as of 1 January 45:

VII Corps
VII Corps Arty
13 FA Obsn Bn
50 Sig Bn
109 AAA Gp
491 Collect Co
492 Collect Co
506 QM Car Co (1 Plat)
649 Clearing Co
804 MP Co Corps
1106 Engr C Gp

Classification changed to [redacted]
by [redacted] of AC of S, G-2, WDGS
by RAY M. STROUPE
Capt., Inf

(2) Attached Corps troops as of 1 January 45:

1 TD Gp
1 Spec Sv Co
4 Cav Gp Mecz
4 Cav Rcn Sq M
5 MHD M Type Y
6 Armd Gp
10 Fin Disb Sec
14 Bomb Disp Sq
18 FA Gp Mtz
20 Bomb Disp Sq
24 Cav Rcn Sq M
58 Armd FA Bn

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59 Fin Disb Sec
60 AGF Band
87 Cml Bn Mtz
87 Armd FA Bn
116 AAA Gun Bn M
142 FA Gp Mtz
154 APU Type F
172 FA Gp Mtz
172 FA Bn 4.5 Gun
183 FA Bn 155 How
188 FA Gp Mtz
188 FA Bn 155 How
195 FA Bn 8" How
196 FA Bn 105 How
207 CIC Det
237 Engr C Bn
238 Engr C Bn
240 FA Bn 155 Gun
285 FA Obsn Bn
294 Engr C Bn
297 Engr C Bn
298 Engr C Bn
307 APU Type F
385 QM Trk Co
413 AAA Gun Bn M
438 AAA AW Bn M
440 AAA AW Bn M
474 AAA AW Bn M
501 Engr L Pon Co
507 Engr L Pon Co
582 Engr Co DT
600 QM Ldry Co
603 QM Grv R Co
612 Engr Co LE
635 TD Bn T
663 Engr Topo Co C
690 FA Bn 105 How
692 QM Bn
759 Tk Bn L
751 FA Bn 155 How
951 FA Bn 155 How
957 FA Bn 155 How
980 FA Bn 155 Gun
981 FA Bn 155 Gun
988 Engr Co TB
991 FA Bn 155 Gun
994 Engr Co TB
1120 Engr C Gp
2892 Engr TI TM C
3251 Sig Serv Co
3279 QM Serv Co
3891 QM Trk Co

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2d Armd Div
Maint Bn 2d Armd Div
2d Armd Div Sup Bn
2d Armd Div Trains
14 Armd FA Bn
17 Armd Engr Bn
41 Armd Inf Regt
48 Armd Med Bn
66 Armd Regt
67 Armd Regt
78 Armd FA Bn
82 Armd Rcn Bn
92 Armd FA Bn
142 Armd Sig Co

Atchd 2 Armd Div
195 AAA AW Bn SP
502 CIC Det
702 TD Bn SP

3 Armd Div
Maint Bn 3 Armd Div
3 Armd Div Sup Bn
3 Armd Div Trains
23 Armd Engr Bn
32 Armd Regt
33 Armd Regt
36 Armd Inf RCT
45 Armd Med Bn
54 Armd FA Bn
67 Armd FA Bn
83 Armd Rcn Bn
143 Armd Sig Co
391 Armd FA Bn

Atchd 3 Armd Div
83 Armd FA Bn
486 AAA AW Bn SP
503 CIC Det

75 Inf Div
75 QM Co
75 Rcn Tr Mecz
75 Div MP Plat
75 Inf Div Band
75 Div Arty
275 Engr C Bn
289 Inf Regt
290 Inf Regt
291 Inf Regt

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2d Armd Div
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48 Armd Med Bn
66 Armd Regt
67 Armd Regt
78 Armd FA Bn
82 Armd Rcn Bn
92 Armd FA Bn
142 Armd Sig Co

Atchd 2 Armd Div
195 AAA AW Bn SP
502 CIC Det
702 TD Bn SP

3 Armd Div
Maint Bn 3 Armd Div
3 Armd Div Sup Bn
3 Armd Div Trains
23 Armd Engr Bn
32 Armd Regt
33 Armd Regt
36 Armd Inf RCT
45 Armd Med Bn
54 Armd FA Bn
67 Armd FA Bn
83 Armd Rcn Bn
143 Armd Sig Co
391 Armd FA Bn

Atchd 3 Armd Div
83 Armd FA Bn
486 AAA AW Bn SP
503 CIC Det

75 Inf Div
75 QM Co
75 Rcn Tr Recz
75 Div MP Plat
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291 Inf Regt

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375 Med Bn
575 Sig Co
730 FA Bn 155 How
775 Ord LM Co
897 FA Bn 105 How
898 FA Bn 105 How
899 FA Bn 105 How

Atchd 75 Inf Div
75 CIC Det
629 TD Bn SP
750 Tank Bn

83 Inf Div
83 Sig Co
83 QM Co
83 Rcn Tr Mecz
83 Div MP Plat
83 Div Band
83 Div Arty
308 Engr C Bn
308 Med Bn
322 FA Bn 105 How
323 FA Bn 105 How
324 FA Bn 155 How
329 Inf Regt
330 Inf Regt
331 Inf Regt
783 Ord LM Co
908 FA Bn 105 How

Atchd 83 Inf Div
83 CIC Det
453 AAA AW Bn M
774 Tank Bn

84 Inf Div
84 Sig Co
84 QM Co
84 Rcn Tr Mecz
84 Inf Div MP Plat
84 Inf Div Band
84 Div Arty
309 Med Bn
309 Engr C Bn
325 FA Bn 105 How
326 FA Bn 105 How
327 FA Bn 155 How
333 Inf Regt
334 Inf Regt
335 Inf Regt
784 Ord LM Co
909th FA Bn 105 How

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Atchd 84 Inf Div
84 CIC Det
557 AAA AW Bn A
638 TD Bn SP
771 Tank Bn

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(3) Attachments:

The 75 Inf Div (Less RCT 290) is attached VII Corps effective 020900A, on order First Army.
629 TD Bn (SP) is attached VII Corps
703 TD Bn (SP) is attached VII Corps
666 FA Bn (155 How) and Btry A, 991 FA Bn (155 Gun (SP)) are attached VII Corps effective 010600A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 143, Hq VII Corps, 2 Jan 45.

On order First Army, 18 FA Bn is attached VII Corps effective 031200A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 144, Hq VII Corps, 4 Jan 45.

(4) Detachments:

On order First Army, 628 TD Bn (SP) is relieved from attachment VII Corps and is attached XVIII Corps effective 010800A.
643 TD Bn (T) is relieved from attachment VII Corps and is attached XVIII Corps effective 010800A.
772 TD Bn (T) is relieved from attachment VII Corps and is attached XVIII Corps effective 010600A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 143, Hq VII Corps, 2 Jan 45.

75 Inf Div (less RCT 290) passes to control XVIII Corps effective 081030A on order First Army.

AUTH: Opns Memo 147, Hq VII Corps, 8 Jan 45.

RCT 290 is relieved from attachment and passes to control XVIII Corps effective 101800A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 149, Hq VII Corps, 10 Jan 45.

On Army order, the following units are relieved from attachment VII Corps and attached XVIII Corps effective 241800A:

84 Inf Div
557 AAA AW Bn (M)
638 TD Bn (SP)
771 Tk Bn
Hq & Hq Btry, 18 FA Gp
193 FA Bn (25 Pdr)
666 FA Bn (155 How)
981 FA Bn (155 Gun)
195 FA Bn (8" How)

AUTH: Opns Memo 156, Hq VII Corps, 24 Jan 45.

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On Army order, 87th Cml Bn is detached from VII Corps and is attached XVIII Corps effective 27 Jan 45.
18 FA Bn (4.5" R) and 266 FA Bn (240 How) are detached from VII Corps and attached to 32 FA Brig effective 242400A.

AUTH: Opns Memo 157, Hq VII Corps, 29 Jan 45.

991 FA Bn (155 Gun (SP)) and 629 TD Bn (SP) are detached from VII Corps and pass to XVIII Corps control.

AUTH: Teletype message from First U.S. Army, 29 Jan 45.

c.) STRENGTH:

Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army as of 1 Jan 45:

92 Officers
7 Warrant officers
112 Enlisted men.

Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 31 Jan 45:

91 Officers
7 Warrant officers
112 Enlisted men

Net loss for period: 1 officer

VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 1 Jan 45: 97,732

VII Corps, U.S. Army, as of 31 Jan 45: 64,369

Net loss for period: 33,363

AUTH: Morning Reports 5 MRU & Hq Co, VII Corps.

d.) STATIONS:

4 Jan left BASSINNES, BELGIUM (P-2999).
4 Jan arrived BOMAL, BELGIUM (P-4299).
12 Jan left BOMAL.
12 Jan arrived LIERNEUX, BELGIUM (P-6188).
25 Jan left LIERNEUX.
25 Jan arrived OCHAIN, BELGIUM (P-3106).

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e.) CAMPAIGNS:

(1) The reduction of the bulge caused by the German counter-offensive of Dec. 45.

(2) Purpose: To seize the HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) - BOVIGNY (P-7082) area.

(3) Duration: 3 Jan. to 24 Jan., incl.

AUTH: Field Order 14, VII Corps, 2 Jan 45, and Opns Memos.

f.) BATTLES:

See narrative report (Appendix, No. 1).

g.) COMMANDING OFFICERS:

Corps Commander: Maj Gen J. Lawton Collins.
Corps Arty: Brig Gen Williston B. Palmer.

Div Commanders:

2 Armd Div: Maj Gen Ernest N. Harmon and Brig Gen Isaac D. White.
3 Armd Div: Maj Gen Maurice Rose.
75 Inf Div: Maj Gen Fay B. Prickett.
83 Inf Div: Maj Gen Robert C. Macon.
84 Inf Div: Brig Gen Alexander R. Bolling.

AUTH: Field Order 14, 2 Jan 45, Hq VII Corps, U. S. Army

h.) LOSSES IN ACTION:

(1) Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army:

No battle casualties for the month.

AUTH: Morning Reports, Hq Co. VII Corps, U.S. Army.

(2) VII Corps, U.S. Army:

	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT.	TOTAL
Officers	85	331	53	0	469
Warrant officers	0	0	0	0	0
Enlisted men	1243	6114	831	0	8188
Grand Totals	1328	6445	884	0	8657

AUTH: 5 MMR, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army.

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1.) FOR AWARD AND PROMULGATING ORDERS AND DISTRIBUTION OF MEDALS IN ACTION:

AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL--Under the provisions of AR 600-45 dated 22 September 1943, as amended, and circular No. 2, Headquarters First United States Army dated 4 January 1945, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded the following:

MAJOR [redacted] 0309722 Infantry, then Headquarters VII Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in support of active combat operations from 1 January 1944 to 15 Jan 1945 in England, France, Belgium, and Germany. Entered military service from California.

AUTH: General Order No. 4, Hq VII Corps, U.S. Army, 27 Jan 45.

2.) PHOTOGRAPHS:

(1) See Inclosure No. 10.

(2) Additional photographs covering the period of this report will be submitted as received from Army Pictorial Services.

For the Commanding General:

Lawton Butler

V11

APPENDICES:
1. Narrative.
2. Staff List (Directory of officers, Hq VII Corps).
3. Casualty and P/W list as compiled by G-1 Sect, VII Corps.

INCLOSURES:
1. Field Orders.
2. Battle casualties (G-1).
3. Periodic Reports (G-3).
4. Sitreps (G-3) (Situation Reports).
5. Operations Memoranda (G-3).
6. Administrative Orders (G-4).
7. Periodic Reports (G-2 & Corps Arty).
8. Journals (G-3).
9. Journals (G-2).
10. Photographs.

DISTRIBUTION:
Copies 1-4 HQCL to AG, Washington, D.C. (Through CG, First U.S. Army.
Copy No. 5 to AC, VII Corps, U.S. Army.
Copy No. 6, File.

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HISTORY OF VII CORPS, U. S. ARMY,
DURING OPERATIONS IN BELGIUM FROM
1 - 31 JANUARY 1945, INCL.

I. Participation in reduction of the penetration caused by the German counteroffensive of December 1945, and the completion of limited objective attack resulting in the capture of HOUFFALIZE.

II. Having completed the above mission, VII Corps and all Corps troops and units move into a rest area for the first time since prior to D-day.

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1 JANUARY 1945

Corps units had very light contact with the enemy while regrouping and improving defenses. Contact was maintained among adjacent units and plans completed for resuming the offensive. The cold weather continued with broken clouds throughout the day which permitted limited operations by friendly aircraft. No direct support of ground troops was possible by fighter-bombers, although medium bombers attacked the communication center of LA ROCHE (P-4577).

Enemy activity during the period was confined entirely to scattered artillery fire. Air observation reported enemy vehicular activity east of AMONINES at P-452871 and in the vicinity of BEFFE (P-4285) and foot troops were reported milling around the town of LAID PRANGELEUX at P-464836.

The appearance of the 17th SS Panzer and 17th Panzer Divisions in the enemy offensive in the SAARBRUCKEN area removed both units from the list of reserves available for employment against VII Corps front. Likewise the enemy's new offensive in the south greatly diminished the possibility of 11th and 25th Panzer Divisions being moved to the "break-through" area. The Division considered to be the most likely candidates for this role by G-2 were: 10th SS Panzer, 6th Panzer, 2nd Mountain, 6th SS Mountain ("Nord") and the 2nd, 6th or 8th Parachute Divisions.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry): Maintained and improved defensive positions with enemy activity on its front reported very light. 335th Infantry was relieved by elements of the 53rd Welsh Division (British) at 2145 and was attached to 2nd Armored Division at that time.

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry, with Regimental Combat Team 290 of 75th Infantry Division, attached): Improvement of defensive front lines and regrouping continued. While the 290th Infantry held and improved defenses from P-400866 to P-452875, and the 331st Infantry was in line from HOTTON (P-3687) to EREZEE (P-4490), the 329th Infantry crossed the IP (P-401004) at 1545 and closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of FAGNOUL (K-5001). The 330th Infantry remained in reserve until 1100 when it was attached to the 3rd Armored Division.

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): Continued maintenance and rehabilitation, planned for future operations, maintaining security patrols throughout the Division area. Elements of the 335th Infantry started to move into the Division area at 1630 hours but had not closed in its new area in the vicinity of BOIS DE REMONT (P-2094) at the end of the period. 3rd Battalion, 41st Armored Infantry Regiment, moved at 1500 and closed in a new area in the vicinity of P-442948 at 1800 hours.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, 83rd Division, attached): Remained in assembly positions, performing maintenance of equipment and rehabilitation of personnel. Task Force Doan reverted to control of Combat Command Hickey at 0800 hours and assembled in the Combat Command's area in the vicinity of PENTE (K-3504). The 330th Infantry was attached to the Division at 1100 and the last elements closed in the Division zone at 2100. The 3rd Battalion was attached to Combat Command Boudinot and assembled in the Combat Command's

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area in the vicinity of BORSU (K-2801). The 1st Battalion was attached to the Reserve (Combat Command Howze) and assembled in the Combat Command's area in the vicinity of TERWANGE (K-3007). The 2nd Battalion, attached to Combat Command Hickey, assembled in the vicinity of OCQUIER (K-3302).

Artillery

*75th Division: Fired 65 missions as follows: 7 personnel, 10 close support, 2 counterbattery, 29 interdiction and harassing, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1300.

84th Division: Fired 148 missions as follows: 3 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 4 close support, 4 tank, 131 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1558.

Corps: Fired 45 missions as follows: 1 personnel, 1 counterbattery, 4 tank, 36 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1074.

*75th Infantry Division was attached to Corps 020900. All Arty reports included 24 hour period from 1200, day of date of this narrative to 1200 of the following day; hence this period is 011200 to 021200. 2nd and 3rd Armd Div Artilleries did not fire during the period. No report was available on the activity of the 83rd Inf Div Arty for this period. Tank Destroyers not engaged.

Antiaircraft: At 0424 hours the 116th AAA Gun Bn engaged a single enemy aircraft at 700 yards altitude, firing 12 rounds of 90mm HE ammunition; no claim was made. Other Corps and all division bns were not engaged during the period.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 1.

2 JANUARY 1945

Units of VII Corps completed regrouping preparatory to attacking. Both the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions moved to attack assembly positions. Infantry continued to hold the front line defenses with very light enemy contact.

During the period the enemy was again inactive along the Corps front, except for intermittently scattered and light artillery fire. Our patrols penetrated 2000 yards into enemy territory, south of HAUPTEAU (P-3886), without making contact with hostile elements. Other patrols advanced one and a half miles southeast of AMONINES (P-4487) to the vicinity of P-475860 before encountering enemy troops outposting a road block. The identification of prisoners of war from the 89th Regiment, 12 Volksgrenadier Division, coupled with reported horse and motor movement to the northwest from the ST. VITH (P-8588) area indicated the arrival of this Division in the VAUX CHAVANNE (P-5491) area.

Effective at 0100 hours, the boundary between the British and VII Corps was set as follows: NAMUR (J-9611) - MARCHE (P-2983), with towns and roads to the British, P-323834 - P-370760. The boundary between VII Corps and the XVIII (Airborne) Corps on our left was set as follows: effective at 0900: K-440072 - K-542007 - K-563003 - P-628894.

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The weather remained cold throughout the period with the ground frozen and covered with snow. Visibility was very poor, especially in the afternoon and no close support missions were flown by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command.

At 0900 hours, the 75 Infantry Division, less Regimental Combat Team 290 with the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, and 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment (28th Infantry Division), attached, was attached to VII Corps in place and with its 290th Infantry, which was attached to 84th Division, held defensive positions across the Corps front.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry, with Regimental Combat Team 290 of 75th Infantry Division, and 4th Cavalry Group, attached): Continued defense of sector with no enemy contact reported. Elements of 333rd and 334th Infantry Regiments were relieved by 158th Brigade, 53rd Welsh Division (British) at 2108 and moved to assembly areas. At 1200 Regimental Combat Team 290 and 4th Cavalry Group were attached. The attached 290th Infantry continued to hold the front lines.

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry). Continued to defend its zone and regrouped. Very little activity was reported on the front. Regimental Combat Team 290 was detached at 1200, and the 331st Infantry moved to a new assembly area.

75th Infantry Division (less 290th Infantry, with 504th Parachute Infantry, attached): Was attached to VII Corps at 0900 hours. Continued to secure its positions along the front and protect the concentration of Corps units preparing to attack.

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): Moved to attack assembly positions behind the front lines held by the 75th Division with Combat Commands located as follows: Combat Command Collier with 335th Infantry, vicinity P-4189; Combat Command White, vicinity P-4890; Combat Command Hinds, vicinity P-4693.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Moved to assembly positions behind the front lines held by 75th Division with Combat Commands located as follows: Combat Command Boudinot, vicinity P-5195; Combat Command Hickey, vicinity P-5597; Combat Command Howze, vicinity K-4802.

84th Infantry Division

After the new boundary between the Corps and the British became effective units of the 158th Brigade of the British 53rd Welsh Division moved in and relieved the 84th Division of the responsibility of its sector at 1000 hours. The 334th Infantry moved to a new assembly area with the 2nd Battalion closing in the BOIS DE PETIT HAN, west of BIRON, in the vicinity of P-3892 at 1000. The 1st and 3rd Battalions of this Regiment were relieved in the line by British units at 2100 and were enroute to assembly areas at the close of the period. At 2108 relief of the 333rd Infantry had been completed by British elements and that Regiment also moved to an assembly area north of MIGNEES (P-3994). The attached 290th Infantry continued to hold front line defenses with units located as follows: 3rd Battalion,

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P-400866 - P-415871; 2nd Battalion, P-418872 - P-424875 - P-430870 - P-433871; 1st Battalion, P-433871 - P-452875. The 4th Cavalry Group was attached at 1200 hours after moving to an assembly area near ANDENNE (K-1213).

83rd Infantry Division

In addition to the new boundary between the VII and XVIII Corps which was also the left flank boundary of the Division, the boundary between the 84th and 83rd Divisions was set as follows effective at 1200 hours: K-437-015 - P-520913 - CR at MANHAY (P-5390) - P-580860. The 290th Infantry (75th Division) was relieved from attachment and attached to the 84th Division at 1200 hours. At the same time the Division was relieved of the responsibility of its sector. Elements of the 331st Infantry began to move to assembly areas at 1100 and by 1900 hours had closed as follows: 1st Battalion, P-453965; 2nd Battalion, P-476968; 3rd Battalion, P-491985. By 2100 the 329th Infantry had also assembled in attack positions as follows: 1st Battalion, P-512993; 2nd Battalion, P-508978; 3rd Battalion, P-526977.

75th Infantry Division

Attached to VII Corps in place at 0900 hours the Division continued to defend the front lines in conjunction with the 290th Infantry (attached to 84th Division) on the right. The 289th Infantry with the 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry, attached, sent Company F to clear out an estimated company of enemy infantry from CROIX ST. JEHEME (P-4888) in the sector of the 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry, in the vicinity of P-479877 at 1530 hours. After a stubborn fire fight, Company F withdrew to allow artillery to shell the area. Artillery fire continued on the enemy location from 1800 until the close of the period.

The 1st Battalion, 289th Infantry, held positions from P-452877 to P-475873 with Company C at P-458892, while the 2nd Battalion units were located from P-475872 to P-511892, and the 3rd Battalion from P-512892 to P-522902. To the left of that regiment was the 291st Infantry with the 3rd and 1st Battalions from P-523903 to P-553914, while the 2nd Battalion was at P-524933. The 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry, also occupied an area to the rear of the front lines, but on the right of the Division sector in the vicinity of P-485883. The 504th Parachute Infantry held positions on the left of the Division sector as follows: 1st Battalion, P-553914 - P-569-925; 3rd Battalion, P-569925 - P-579931; 2nd Battalion, P-579931 - P-596944.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 75 missions as follows: 12 preparation, 25 personnel, 10 close support, 13 counterbattery, 10 tank, 2 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4805.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 19 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 4 personnel, 5 close support, 6 counterbattery, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1376.

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75th Division: Fired 57 missions as follows: 12 close support, 1 counterbattery, 36 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1889.

84th Division: Fired 38 missions as follows: 2 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 4 tank, 27 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 756.

Corps: Fired 12 missions -- 10 preparation and 2 counterbattery, expending 183 rounds.

Antiaircraft: A single FW-190 was engaged by the 453rd AAA AW Bn (attached to 83rd Inf Div) 0926 hours but no claim was made.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 8.

3 JANUARY 1945

First U.S. Army resumed the offensive with VII Corps making the main effort by attacking at 0830 to seize the HOUFFALIZE (P-6071) - BOVIGNY (P-7082) area with the 2nd Armored Division on the right and the 3rd Armored Division on the left followed closely by the 84th and 83rd Infantry Divisions, respectively. Despite the continued cold weather and snow, good progress was made, with armored spearheads advancing up to 3 kilometers. Although routes of advance were restricted by the weather and roads were slippery, hampering tank movement, the towns of FLORET (P-5993) - and MALEMPRE (P-5688) were captured while other units reached BEFFE (P-4285) - LAMORMENIL (P-5086) and FREYNEUX (P-5186). Infantry following the armored units mopped up by-passed groups of enemy.

Following a night of no activity, the enemy met our initial advance from his outpost positions with little resistance. By mid-day, however, opposition increased as our troops pushed to the south; artillery, anti-tank, and tank fire was employed to augment the bazooka and automatic fires of emplaced infantry. The 2nd SS Panzer Division, employing both panzer grenadier regiments, was forced to fall back to BEFFE and later to yield part of the village. At 1630, a force from the 2nd SS Panzer Division consisting of six to ten tanks, supported by infantry, attempted a counter-attack in the vicinity of P-445846, one mile south of AMONINES (P-4487). Within an hour the attack was over, the tanks and infantry having been dispersed by artillery fire, and nothing was accomplished by the enemy.

Further to the east, the 1130th Regiment of the 560th Volksgrenadier Division, after relieving the 1129th Regiment during the night, offered little resistance to our forces in the FREYNEUX area, while the 12th Volksgrenadier Division fighting in the MALEMPRE - LANSIVAL (P-6090) area, offered more stubborn opposition. Having effected a delay of our armor by means of a minefield at P-601926 elements of the 84th Regiment were forced from FLORET, followed by elements of the 89th Regiment yielding MALEMPRE. Beginning at nightfall and continuing until the close of the period enemy activity resolved itself into an artillery duel with our forces.

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The strength of the enemy forces on the Corps front was estimated at 35,000 with 13,000 immediate reserves in addition to some 70,000 general reserves that could have been employed against VII Corps. Other than the three divisions with which the Corps was in contact on this date, the following other enemy units were known to have been committed on VII Corps fronts: 9th and 116th Panzer, 12th SS ("Hitler Jugend") Panzer and 9th SS ("Hohenstaufen") Panzer Divisions and the Fuhrer Escort ("Grossdeutschland") Brigade with an estimated 346 tanks. Another 180 tanks were believed by G-2 to be in immediate reserve.

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry attached): Attacked, initially encountering light resistance which increased in the afternoon, but managed to capture BEFFE (P-4285) with other elements advancing to LAMORMENIL (P-5086) and FREYNEUX (P-5186) despite the snow and terrain both of which offered formidable obstacles.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry attached): Although elements were held up initially by a minefield, and later hampered by poor roads and the weather, FLORET (P-5993) and MALEMPRE (P-5688) were captured. The poor visibility and ice covered roads hampered movement greatly.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry, with 290th Regimental Combat Team and 4th Cavalry Group, attached): When the 2nd Armored Division passed through its front lines, elements aided the attackers by cleaning up by-passed enemy groups.

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): 1st and 3rd Battalions, 329th Infantry, relieved elements of the 504th Parachute Infantry in the vicinity of P-569925 - P-579931 and P-579931 - P-596944, respectively, at 2200, and the 2nd Battalion was in the process of relieving other elements of the 504th Parachute Infantry in the vicinity of P-555918. The 331st Infantry remained in assembly positions with units located as follows: 1st Battelion, P-453965; 2nd Battalion, P-476968; 3rd Battalion, P-491985.

75th Infantry Division (less 290th Regimental Combat Team, with 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry, attached): Except for the 1st Battalion, the 504th Parachute Infantry was relieved by elements of the 329th Infantry, and passed from operational control of the 75th Division to XVIII (Airborne) Corps control. The 289th and 291st Infantry Regiments held the same defensive positions as the previous period, after elements of the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions passed through their front lines. The 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry, continued mopping up operations in the vicinity of P-477877.

2nd Armored Division

The 2nd Armored Division on the right of the Corps was assigned the mission of attacking through elements of the 84th and 75th Infantry Divisions and making its main effort to the left of its zone to seize initially the area: SAMREE (P-5081) - cross roads at P-576853; then to capture HOUFFALIZE (P-6071) and seize the high ground to the east and south. The Division plan was to seize the line of the River OURTHE and then establish a bridgehead at HOUFFALIZE. The attack was to be made in close conjunction with the 84th Infantry Division which was to follow the armor and mop up.

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Combat Command Collier had the right zone within the Division, and attacked south in three columns, Task Forces A, B, and C in that order from west to east. These columns initially met only scattered opposition, consisting mainly of bazooka and small arms fire. Task Force A attacked from TRIMAL (P-4186) and reached BEFFE (P-4285) against increasing resistance, including heavy anti-tank and artillery fire; Task Force B attacked from the vicinity of P-423873, reaching MAGOSTER (P-4285), while Task Force C attacked from AMONINES (P-4487) and advanced to the vicinity of LE CHAMISSE (P-4686). A fourth unit, Task Force D, was held in reserve.

The terrain and weather were both severe handicaps. Tanks experienced great difficulty because of the ice, and the snow limited visibility. During the day there was less than an hour in which there was air observation for artillery. Enemy snipers were also active and considerable silent nebelwerfer fire was also encountered. Very heavy anti-tank fire was delivered from the woods in the vicinity of P-555855 - P-550870. Toward the end of the day approximately 17 enemy tanks were identified in the area DEVANTAVE (P-4484) - BEFFE, and on order of the Commanding General, VII Corps, the attack was stopped at 1600 hours. At 1645, the enemy launched a small scale counter-attack composed of infantry supported by 6 tanks. This threat in the vicinity of P-438851 was stopped with no loss of ground and defensive positions were further consolidated.

Combat Command White employed two Task Forces, X and Y, making similiar progress to Combat Command Collier against slightly stronger opposition. Enemy artillery fire was very heavy. Task Force Y on the right advanced east from LA FOSSE (P-5178) to LA BATTY (P-5188), then south to the vicinity of FREYNEUX (P-5186) and LAMORMENIL (P-5086). Task Force X attacked from GRANDMENIL (P-5290) to the south and reached the southern edge of the woods in the vicinity of LA GROSSE HAIE (P-5386) - FOND-DE-LA-JUSTICE (P-5487). Small groups of enemy infantry and well placed anti-tank guns were encountered.

3rd Armored Division

In conjunction with the 2nd Armored Division, the 3rd Armored Division on the left of the Corps zone was given the role of also making its main effort to the left to initially seize the area: REGNE (P-6185) - LIERNEUX (P-6188); seize road centers in the vicinity of HOUFFALIZE (P-6071) - CHERAIN (P-6677) and BOVIGNY (P-7082), blocking any enemy attacks from the east, assisting the 2nd Armored Division in the capture of HOUFFALIZE, maintaining contact with the XVIII (Airborne) Corps on the left, and operating in close conjunction with the 83rd Infantry Division.

The Division's attack of 3 January was based on the plan to advance to the southeast, securing road junctions in the vicinity of BOVIGNY and and CHERAIN, making a rapid move by-passing enemy resistance, and cutting the roads, then blocking against enemy movement to the north and northwest through these points with Combat Command Hickey. Meanwhile, Combat Command Boudinot on the right of the Division zone was to attack to the southeast to seize REGNE (P-6185), then move rapidly, by-passing enemy resistance to assist in the blocking of roads in the vicinity of CHERAIN and VAUX (P-6576), and then attacking south from there to assist the 2nd Armored Division in the seizing and securing of HOUFFALIZE. Combat Command Boudinot was ordered

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to be further prepared to attack and capture the town of HOUFFALIZE in the event that the 2nd Armored Division did not reach that locality. In the event that 2nd Armored Division units reached the town before Combat Command Boudinot, the Command was to assist the 2nd Armored Division by a flanking action from the north and northeast and prevent enemy movement toward the objective.

Combat Command Boudinot employed two columns, Task Force Lovelady on the right and Task Force McGeorge on the left. The former advanced against stubborn opposition from dug-in infantry, mortar and artillery fire. Inadequate roads and thick woods added to the difficulties imposed by the weather, but by the close of the period MALEMPRE (P-5688) had been secured and an outpost line established south of the town. Very heavy anti-tank fire was encountered before the town was finally cleared.

The advance of the left column from the assembly area was hindered by extremely difficult terrain and icy roads. After crossing the line of departure, mines slowed progress. A road block covered by small arms fire at P-566911 and another road block defended by anti-tank fire was located at P-568912. By the close of the day the advance through the mines had been successfully negotiated and engineers and infantry had gone forward to reduce the road blocks so that the advance could be resumed in the morning.

On the left of the Division zone, Combat Command Hickey attacked with two Task Forces, Richardson and Doan on the right (west) and left (east), respectively. Due to its initial route being impassable, the right column was unable to advance until Task Force Doan had cleared the RJ at P-591935. At 1300 Task Force Richardson moved out and advanced to the vicinity of GROSSE JESSE (P-5991). Dug-in infantry resisted the advance stubbornly and heavy artillery and mortar fire were also encountered.

Meanwhile Task Force Doan reached FICRET (P-5993) at 1000 and mopping up operations by infantry was begun. The advance was resumed but was halted at 1115 by a minefield covered by small arms fire in the heavily wooded defile at P-602927. This obstacle was breached by infantry and engineers and by 1300 the column was moving forward again. After halting and reorganizing at 1500 in the vicinity of P-604912, the advance was resumed and by the close of the period the cross road at P-613910 and the bridge at P-610910 had been secured. Infantry elements had also organized the high ground at P-605910.

84th Infantry Division

Elements of Task Force Church (Regimental Combat Team 290, less 898th Field Artillery Battalion, and 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry and 4th Cavalry Group) attacked in close support of Combat Command Collier, 2nd Armored Division after they had passed through the front lines held by the 290th Infantry, and mopped up pockets of enemy remaining along the route of advance. The reinforced 4th Cavalry Group closed in the Division area at 1800 with the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron assembling in the vicinity of P-383960 and the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in the vicinity of P-432903. Company C, 290th Infantry advanced to P-430859 behind the attack-

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ing armored units while the remainder of the Regiment continued to hold the same positions as the previous day.

The 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, assembled in GRANDMENIL (P-5290) and attacked in support of Combat Command White, 2nd Armored Division, and advanced south to P-530880 where they held the high ground on the edge of the woods. The 3rd Battalion, with the cannon and anti-tank companies of this Regiment, moved to the vicinity of GRANDMENIL, and the 2nd Battalion assembled in the vicinity of BETTINE (P-4590). The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 334th Infantry, remained in previous locations. These operations were in conformity with the Division's mission of attacking in support of the 2nd Armored Division, eliminating all pockets of resistance with in its zone, protecting the right flank of the Corps and blocking enemy movement across the OURTHE River.

75th Infantry Division

Company F, 289th Infantry, attacked a dug-in but isolated enemy pocket at P-482874 from the north at 1300, and although one enemy group was wiped out with grenades, strong automatic weapons fire stopped further advance. The attackers then fell back to prepared positions in the vicinity of P-487880. Meanwhile Company G, 112th Infantry had attempted to envelop the right (east) flank of the enemy group, but were stopped by heavy machine gun and mortar fire and withdrew to previously prepared positions in the vicinity of P-491888 upon the withdrawal by Company F, 289th Infantry. Other units with the Division screened the advance of the 3rd Armored Division and held previous positions.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 157 missions as follows: 9 preparation, 39 personnel, 5 close support, 10 counterbattery, 13 tank, 68 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 9786.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 227 missions as follows: 22 preparation, 7 personnel, 56 close support, 28 counterbattery, 105 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6150.

75th Division: Fired 45 missions as follows: 3 personnel, 6 counterbattery, 32 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1788.

84th Division: Fired 160 missions as follows: 3 preparation, 13 personnel, 30 close support, 3 tank, 104 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3002.

Corps: Fired 138 missions as follows: 32 preparation, 5 personnel, 20 counterbattery, 1 tank, 79 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3417.

The 83rd Div Arty did not fire during the period.

Except for registration by light artillery battalions, the artillery

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with the Corps was silent in the new Corps zone until after H hour. No artillery preparations were fired prior to the attack. The 5th Army Group Royal Artillery (British) supported the Corps attack with fires from 4 medium regiments and 1 heavy regiment which were in position in the sector of the 53rd Welsh Division. Approximately 1200 rounds were fired on missions requested by Corps and 84th Div Arty.

Antiaircraft: No action against enemy aircraft was reported by the 109th AAA Gp for the 24 hour period ending at 0600.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 276.

4 JANUARY 1945

The attack to the southeast made slow but steady progress despite the extreme cold, continued snow, and unfavorable terrain. The towns of JEVIGNE (P-5990) and LANSIVAL (P-6090) were seized, BEFFE (P-4285), LAMORMENIL (P-5086) and FREYNEUX (P-5186) and several enemy counter-attacks beaten back without the loss of any ground.

Aided by the snow, poor visibility, and terrain the 2nd SS Panzer, 506th and 12th Volksgrenadier Divisions were unable to hold the positions from which they fought at the start of the period. BEFFE was a center of resistance until the defenders, elements of the 3rd and 4th Panzer Grenadier Regiments of the 2nd SS Panzer Divisions were forced to yield the village entirely. Anti-tank and nebelwerfer fire was employed by the enemy while groups of infantry armed with bazookas fought in the wooded regions of the BEFFE - ODEIGNE (P-5386) area. This latter town remained in German hands.

The 12th Volksgrenadier Division relied upon road blocks and minefields to bolster its defenses in the MALEMPRE (P-5688) - LIERNEUX (P-6188) area. A pocket of dug-in infantry resisted stubbornly in the vicinity of a destroyed bridge at P-570913, east of VAUX CHAVENNE. With the identification of the 27th Regiment, 12th Volksgrenadier Division, south of MALEMPRE, it was believed that the Division was shifting its weight westward to aid the faltering 560th Volksgrenadier Division.

VII Corps command post closed in BASSINNES (P-2999) at 1600 hours and opened in BOMAL (P-4299) Belgium at the same hour.

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): Cleared BEFFE (P-4285), LAMORMENIL (P-5086) and FREYNEUX (P-5186), repulsed two enemy counter-attacks, and engaged in a heavy fight for ODEIGNE (P-5386).

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Seized JEVIGNE (P-5990), BANEUX (P-5989), XHOUT-SI-PLOUX (P-5790) and LANSIVAL (P-6090), cleared the woods in the vicinity of P-5892 - P-6092, and held a 400 yard bridgehead over the LIENNE River at P-611910.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry with 290th Regimental

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Combat Team and 4th Cavalry Group, attached): Continued to move units forward assisting the attack of the 2nd Armored Division by clearing groups of by-passed enemy resistance.

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Completed relief of 504th Parachute Infantry with 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, moving into defensive positions on the line at P-553920 - P-560919 - P-567923. Company I, 329th Infantry, relieved Task Force Kane (3rd Armored Division) at P-607918 where positions on the high ground southwest of HERLOT (P-6192) were held. There was no change among other units which were out of contact with the enemy.

75th Infantry Division (less 290th Regimental Combat Team): Continued operations against enemy pocket in the BOIS DE PAYS at P-475875. After being relieved by the 3rd Battalion, 289th Infantry, the 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry, reverted to control of XVIII (Airborne) Corps.

2nd Armored Division

A temporary boundary between the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions was as follows at 1600 hours: Trail junction at P-528885, stream crossing at P-545868, point on road at P-568850, trail junction at P-577846, thence to the junction with the permanent boundary at P-593848. Instructions issued to the Division were to pinch out DOCHAMPS (P-4983) by attacking from the northwest (from the direction of DEVANTAVE, P-4484) and from the northeast (from the direction of FREYNEUX, P-5186). Upon the seizure of DOCHAMPS the attack to capture SAMREE (P-5081) was to be continued with ODEIGNE (P-5386) also being seized and the road SAMREE (P-5081) - RJ (P-5785) cut.

Task Force A of Combat Command Collier resumed the attack against BEFFE (P-4285), one of the initial objectives, at 0900 hours, but was stopped by direct fire and artillery with some loss of equipment. After the Task Force reorganized, the attack was renewed at 1030 with tanks entering the town from the north and infantry from the northeast. Upon entering BEFFE it was first thought to have been abandoned by the enemy, but small arms fire and mines were encountered. After this resistance was overcome a road block was organized south of the town and the main column continued forward until stopped at 1515 by anti-tank and artillery fire in the vicinity of P-428847.

The enemy launched a series of counter-attacks against Task Force B of Combat Command Collier in the vicinity of MAGOSTER (P-4285) starting at 0515, with another at 0525, and a third at 1025 hours. All attacks consisted of tanks and infantry, and all were broken up by our artillery and direct tank fire. At 1515 the Task Force moved south toward the objective of DEVANTAVE (P-4484) but was held up by direct fire of artillery and enemy tanks at P-435848 about 1645 hours. Meanwhile, Task Force C on the left of the Combat Command Collier's zone combed the woods to the south and southeast of AMONINES (P-4497). Active patrolling through the wooded area was conducted without enemy contact. Reserve elements of the Command, Task Force D, patrolled south of AMONINES, established contact with Task Force B and protected the left flank of Task Force C.

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After having been forced to withdraw from LAMORMENIL (P-5086) at the close of the previous day due to heavy artillery, nebelwerfer and direct fire, Task Force Y of Combat Command White attacked to retake the town at 0900 and by 1250 the enemy had been driven out. The attack on the high ground west of LAMORMENIL was as slow due to the weather, and terrain as to enemy resistance. By 1600 this Task Force had organized and consolidated positions in the vicinity of P-495895. Other elements of the Force also cleared the town of FREYNEUX (P-5186).

On the left of the zone of Combat Command White, Task Force X was able to make continuous progress to the south as soon as they attacked and advanced to P-546877. Difficult terrain was the main reason for the slow advance to that point. No advance beyond that point was made due to anti-tank fire received from the vicinity of P-557868. An attack was made on ODEIGNE (P-5386), and in the fighting that ensued direct fire from the vicinity of P-557868 including tanks, artillery, anti-tank guns and nebelwerfers prevented the advance during light. After darkness additional progress of several hundred yards was made with operations being suspended at 2100 hours. Positions held by Task Force X at the close of the period were at P-545876, P-540872 and P-532862.

Combat Command Hinds (Division Reserve) moved to an assembly area in the vicinity of LE BATTY (P-5188) and closed in that area at 1845. Division Artillery in addition to supporting attacking elements inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy forces that counter-attacked Task Force B of Combat Command Collier.

3rd Armored Division

Continuing its mission to seize the initial objective of LIERNEUX (P-6188), the Division resumed the attack at 0800 hours. Task Force Lovelady of Combat Command Boudinot on the extreme right of the Division zone encountered a minefield at RJ at P-566880. Progress in clearing this obstacle was slow due to the enemy fire covering it which included mortar, artillery and anti-tank fire. At the close of the period infantry had advanced to P-568877 with other elements of the force remaining north of the minefield.

The left column of Combat Command Hickey, Task Force McGeorge, reached P-570913 at 0915 hours, found the bridge blownat that point, and the road beyond the bridge blocked by felled trees. A by-pass (via P-568911 - P-565913 - northeast to the original route) was found and the force moved along this route. At 1315 Task Force McGeorge reached JEVIGNE (P-5990) making contact with the right column (Task Force Richardson) of Combat Command Hickey in the town. The Task Force moved on and by 1550 had reached BANEUX (P-5989) where it became engaged in a fire fight with enemy infantry in the town. At the close of the period the town had been secured and the Task Force was holding positions south of the town in the vicinity of P-595893.

In the zone of Combat Command Hickey, Task Force Richardson reached the road junction at P-600904 where it was stopped by a minefield. This obstacle was breached and elements of the force reached LANSIVAL (P-6090)

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while other elements were sent into JEVIGNE where contact was made with the left elements of Combat Command Boudinot. Just south of LANSVAL a fire fight developed with the enemy and at the close of the period Task Force Richardson held positions at P-604895 and P-610895.

Task Force Doan remained in position initially until Task Force Richardson had come abreast and then attacked. The column was held up by a blown bridge over the LIENNE River which was covered by small arms, anti-tank, and artillery fire. At the close of the period a bridgehead 400 yards deep had been established in the vicinity of P-611910 by infantry, and bridging operations were proceeding under cover of darkness.

Task Force Kane (1st Battalion, 32nd Armored Regiment, and 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment) of Combat Command Howze (Division Reserve) moved out at 0700 hours to assemble in the vicinity of BERGHFAZ (P-5994), preparatory to sending infantry to clear out the enemy from the area between the left column of Combat Command Hickey and the Division left boundary. At 0900 the 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, closed in the vicinity of BERGHFAZ, followed by the 32nd Armored Regiment unit at 1130. The 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry, moved out at 0955 hours to clear the Division left boundary, and advancing against no resistance reached its objective in the vicinity of P-605919 at 1205 where positions were organized. The Battalion remained in position there overwatching Combat Command Hickey's columns from the high ground until relieved by elements of the 329th Infantry (83rd Division) at 1905 hours. At 2040 the 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, closed in the vicinity of BERGHFAZ.

Orders were issued to Combat Command Howze at 1420 to move Task Force Hogan (3rd Battalion, 33rd Armored Regiment, 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, plus other attachments) to assemble in the vicinity of MANHAY (P-5390) preparatory to launching an attack at 0800 hours, 5 January, from the front lines of 2nd Armored Division, to secure the cross roads at P-575853. At 1400, Task Force Hogan had assembled in the MANHAY area and sent patrols to the south.

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion employed two companies, C and B, to deploy along the line P-545903 - P-575923 to work dismounted through the sector between the right and left columns of Combat Command Boudinot. Moving out to the south at 0800 patrols were continued throughout the day, and many anti-tank and anti-personnel mines were located in addition to a number of prisoners being taken, SHOUT-SI-PLOUX (P-5791) was seized.

84th Infantry Division

Elements of the Division continued in close support of the 2nd Armored Division, eliminating enemy pockets of resistance by-passed by the armored units. The 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, advanced in support of Combat Command White and cleared out the woods in the vicinity of LA CROSSE HAIE (P-5386) and FOND-DE-LA-JUSTICE (P-5587) against relatively light resistance. The 3rd Battalion moved to the vicinity of LANGLIRMIL. Task Force Church, less the 290th Regimental Combat Team which continued to hold

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original positions to the rear of the advancing armored units, moved to relieve Task Force A, of Combat Command Collier in BERTE. On request of Combat Command Collier, the Task force halted at MASONIER (P-4285). Other elements continued to hold previous positions with the exception of the 2nd Battalion, 290th Infantry, which shifted to the east and took over positions formerly held by elements of the 1st Battalion of that Regiment in the vicinity of AMONINES (P-4487).

75th Infantry Division

In the sector held by the 2nd Battalion, 112th Infantry, Companies E anf F, 112th Infantry, with six medium tanks of the 750th Tank Battalion attacked the German pocket in the vicinity of P-482874 at 1030 hours. By 1130 the hostile positions were over-run and mopping up of the area continued throughout the afternoon with 2 prisoners being captured and 50 enemy killed. The 3rd Battalion, 289th Infantry, after being relieved by the 2nd Battalion, 291st Infantry, in the vicinity of GRANDMENIL (P-5290) relieved the 2nd Battelion, 112th Infantry, at 1730 hours. Other units continued to hold previous positions.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 172 missions as follows: 31 preparation, 35 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 19 close support, 6 counterbattery, 6 tank, 42 interdiction and harassing, and 32 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4933.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 192 missions as follows: 4 preparation, 35 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 41 close support, 12 counterbattery, 6 tank, 85 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 7520.

75th Division: Fired 19 missions as follows: 1 personnel, 1 counterbattery, 3 interdiction and harassing, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 508.

83rd Division: Fired 16 missions as follows: 2 close support, 13 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 253.

84th Division: Fired 101 missions as follows: 10 preparation, 7 close support, 1 tank, 83 interdiction and harassing: Rounds expended: 2561.

Corps: Fired 157 missions as follows: 9 preaparation, 2 personnel, 13 close support, 11 counterbattery, 7 tank, 107 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3215.

All missions fired by the 83rd Div Arty were on request of the 3rd Armd Div. The 84th Div Arty expended 1064 rounds on missions requested by the 53rd Welsh Division (British).

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

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Tank Destroyer: The 702nd TD Bn expended 56 rounds of 90mm HE and 12 rounds of 90mm APC direct fire knocking out 3 Mark V tanks.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 302.

5 JANUARY 1945

Armored units continued the attack against stubborn resistance of all types, making gains of up to 2 kilometers, including the capture of ODEIGNE (P-5386). Infantry elements advancing in support of armored thrusts mopped up pockets of enemy resistance with units advancing to the line of the AISNE River. Inclement weather and poor visibility again hampered operations.

Starting at daylight elements of the 48th Regiment, 12th Volksgrenadier Division, supported by tanks of the 2nd SS Panzer Division, attacked unsuccessfully to gain the high ground overlooking LANSIVAL (P-6090). Having failed in this effort, the enemy resumed the defense of the approaches to LIERNEUX (P-6188), the perimeter of which was still held at the close of the period. The losses sustained by the 12th Volksgrenadier Division became evident with the identification in the line of the 797th March Battalion, which had been relieved of its mission of guarding rear areas around LA FALISE (P-6389), and by the attachment of a Kampfgruppe of the 156th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 116th Panzer Division.

To the west the 560th Volksgrenadier Division was unable to check our advances, resulting in his loss of ODEIGNE and the approach of our troops to within 1000 yards of HOTTAPS (P-4983) where a strong point of dug-in infantry and anti-tank guns were encountered. The 2nd SS Panzer Division continued its stubborn defense of the area south of DEIGNE (P-4285) again employing heavy artillery and mortar fire in conjunction with nebelwerfer and bazooka rockets on the advance elements of our armored and infantry thrusts. Very little ground was given up by the 2nd SS Panzer Division during the day.

Although no snow fell during the period, the weather continued cold with visibility generally poor except for a short period during mid-afternoon. Of the 15 missions flown by fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Force, 9 were on close support and armed reconnaissance. Results were reported as excellent with 9 enemy tanks destroyed and 6 damaged in addition to 60 motor transports knocked out, 14 damaged and 9 probably destroyed.

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): Made slight gains against difficult terrain and stubborn enemy resistance, which resulted in the capture of ODEIGNE (P-5386). Very poor visibility slowed progress on the entire Division front.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Repelled an enemy counter-attack in the morning, but little progress was made by our units during the day.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry, with Regimental Combat Team 290, and 14th Cavalry Group, attached): Continued to advance in support

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of 2nd Armored Division, eliminating pockets of enemy resistance. Units occupied BEFFE (P-4285), MAGOSTER (P-4286), ODEIGNE (P-5386), FREYNEUX (P-5186), AMONINES (P-4487) and OPPAGNE (P-4192).

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): There was no change in the location of any units, and none had contact with the enemy.

75th Infantry Division (less Regimental Combat Team 290): 1st and 2nd Battalions, 289th Infantry advanced units to the line of the AISNE River late in the period, encountering small groups of enemy in the vicinity of P-4886. At the close of the period these units were out of contact with the enemy.

2nd Armored Division

After a night of no activity on the part of the enemy, patrols advanced to the vicinity of CONSY (P-4384), located a minefield, and reported enemy vehicular activity in the vicinity of DEVANTAVE (P-4484). Heavy artillery fire was received from the southeast. Due to zero visibility, the attack of Combat Command Collier was delayed until 0915 hours when Task Force A approached CONSY from the east with attacking infantry supported by Division Artillery and tank fire from Task Force B in the vicinity of P-435848. It was impossible to use armored units in the attack due to the terrain and icy condition of the roads, and fierce resistance was met by the infantry including small arms, mortar, anti-tank, tank and artillery fire. At the end of the period positions remained the same.

Meanwhile Task Force C attacked at 0926 along the road in the vicinity of P-463870 and advanced against medium resistance including small arms and mortar fire from a pocket of enemy in the vicinity of P-473867. The Task Force reached P-472867. Elements of Task Force D worked through the woods in the vicinity of P-4686 to the line: P-465867 - P-452854, contacting Task Force C on the left.

At 0930, Task Force X of Combat Command White attacked ODEIGNE (P-5386) in two groups, the right force enveloping the town from the west while the other attacked from the northwest. Elements of the latter persisted against stiff resistance from small arms and artillery fire. By 1500 the town had been secured and positions consolidated. Task Force Y was relieved in the line by Task Force R (previously designated as Combat Command Hines) at 0830 and returned to the vicinity of P-4670 as Division reserve. Task Force R attacked at 0900 hours southeast along the high ground in two forces; the right force advanced to positions 1000 yards southwest of LAMORMENIL (P-5086) at 1010; the ground at P-512847 was secured, and a road block established at P-502847. The left force was slowed by a minefield which was breached, and the advance continued. At the end of the period the column had reached P-495850 in its southwestward push.

3rd Armored Division

Task Force Stallings (previously Lovelady) resumed the attack at 0800 and immediately encountered strong enemy anti-tank, artillery, and mortar fire. Due to restricted visibility (50 yards) the infantry advanced ahead

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of tanks on both sides of the road in the woods pushing forward slowly. Against continuous, stubborn resistance, this force worked its way out of the woods to P-567873 - P-573876 by the close of the period. Task Force McGeorge also resumed the attack at 0800. Tank elements moved to the west from just south of BANEUX (P-5989) so as to bring fire on LIERNEUX (P-6188) and assist in reducting resistance in the town. At the same time infantry elements moved through the woods and to the east on the high ground at P-605885. At the close of the period tank and infantry elements were disposed in the vicinity of P-573872.

At 0745, Task Force Richardson of Combat Command Hickey was counter-attacked by enemy infantry, supported by a few tanks, against its positions on the nigh ground in the vicinity of P-610895. After stubborn fighting this enemy attack was broken up, however some infiltration occurred to the east of the Task Force's position. By 1300 this situation had been completely cleared up and immediate preparations were made to resume the attack south on LIERNEUX. At the close of the period Task Force Richardson had tank and infantry elements in the western and northern part of LIERNEUX while other elements continued to hold the high ground just north of the town. Heavy artillery, mortar and anti-tank fire was received through the day.

After holding a bridgehead of 400 yards across the LIENNE River at P-611910 throughout the night, Task Force Doan moved out at 0800 to resume the attack south. By 1100 hours elements had entered the town of LAVAUX (P-6289). South of LA VAUX Task Force Doan was assembled and reorganized. An infantry column was dispatched southwest toward LIERNEUX to assist Task Force Richardson in operations against the town. Little progress was made during the afternoon due to increased enemy resistance and very restricted visibility. At the close of the period troops of Task Force Doan were at P-625896 and P-618897. Air support was available from 1500 to 1600 hours with Combat Command Hickey directing fighter-bombers on a column of enemy tanks south of LIERNEUX.

Task Force Hogan of Combat Command Howze attacked from the vicinity of RJ at P-566882 south to move over the secondary road to RJ at P-568860 and then to the objective, RJ at P-575853. Due to encountering a strong position of dug-in enemy tanks and infantry in the vicinity of P-567877, the advance was halted. Tank-infantry elements were detached to outflank this strong point. The flanking force moved west to the main road running south from MANHAY (P-5390) and moved through the line held by elements of the 2nd Armored Division at P-545876. Good progress was made and at P-580864, west of FRAITURE, they stopped for the night. The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued its patrol sweep through the heavily wooded area between the two routes of Combat Command Boudinot. Considerable enemy artillery and nebelwerfer fire was encountered throughout the operation and at the close of the period positions were held as follows: Company A, P-569887 - P-573890; Company D, P-573876 - P-579879; and Company B, P-581884 - P-588890.

84th Infantry Division

The Division continued to advance in close support of the 2nd Armored Division eliminating enemy pockets of resistance in the zone of advance. Task Force Church followed the attacking elements of Combat Command Collier,

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mopping up by-passed groups of enemy. Companies A and C, 290th Infantry, advanced to BEFFE (P-4285) arriving about daylight. Companies E and G of this Regiment moved up to the vicinity of P-435852, Company E closing about 2215 hours and Company G at 1640. Company B moved in to secure MAGOSTER (P-4286), while other elements of the 2nd Battalion took up positions at P-445875, and the 3rd Battalion at P-420852 - P-412851, establishing contact with Company C. Elements of the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion and the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron moved into AMONINES (P-4487) and established three road blocks.

The 333rd Infantry advanced in close support of Combat Command White of the 2nd Armored Division with units located as follows at the close of the period: 2nd Battalion, vicinity of GRANDMENIL (P-5290); Company A, P-522856 - P-528868; Company B, P-531879; Company C, ODEIGNE (P-5386); Company I, P-500860 - P-494860 - P-490862; Company K, P-505859; Company K, FREYNEUX (P-5186). The 3rd Battalion, 334th Infantry, moved into OPPAGNE (P-4192) while the 1st and 2nd Battalions remained assembled in the vicinity of P-398922 and P-395900. The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued assembled in the vicinity of P-383960.

75th Infantry Division

In conjunction with plans of Combat Command Collier and White of the 2nd Armored Division, elements of the 3rd Battalion, 289th Infantry attacked on an azimuth of 210 degrees (southwest) at 1615, and Companies E and F attacked at 1700 to seize the line of the AISNE River. A machine gun nest was knocked out at 1800, an enemy strong point at P-4886 eliminated, and 11 prisoners captured in the advance to the River. The 3rd Battalion held positions at P-496875 - P-478866 and the 2nd Battalion at P-511895 - P-508862 while the 1st Battalion locations were P-460875 - P-474865. With the evacuation of GRANDMENIL (P-5290) elements of the 291st Infantry pulled out of the line; the 2nd Battalion moved into the town, while the 1st and 3rd Battalions moved to assembly areas to the rear of the front lines at P-550912 - P-535905, and P-532906 - P-523903.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 147 missions as follows: 47 preparation, 32 personnel, 7 mortar and machine gun, 21 close support, 3 tank, 31 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6389.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 276 missions as follows: 5 preparation, 43 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 32 close support, 3 counterbattery, 10 tank, 171 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expeneded: 8093.

75th Division: Fired 58 missions as follows: 2 preparation, 9 personnel, 23 close support, and 24 interdiction and harassing. Rounds expended: 983.

83rd Division: Fired 28 missions - 27 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous - expending 658 rounds.

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84th Division: Fired 172 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 5 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 23 close support, 139 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2611.

Corps: Fired 151 missions as follows: 47 preparation, 13 personnel, 14 close support, 31 counterbattery, 5 tank, 32 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4187.

All missions fired by 83rd Div Arty were on request of 3rd Armd Div, and the majority of 84th Div Arty firing was done on request of 2nd Armd Div. The 5th Army Group Royal Artillery (British) fired 10 interdiction missions on request by 84th Div Arty.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 702nd TD Bn knocked out a Mark IV tank, expending 40 rounds of 90mm direct fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 303.

6 JANUARY 1945

Continued freezing weather and additional snow throughout the Corps zone again proved as great a barrier to our southeastward advance as the enemy resistance encountered, but armored spearheads followed by infantry combat teams made slow, steady progress. DEVANTAVE (P-4484) was captured, the towns of LIERNEUX (P-6188) and LA FALISE (P-6289) cleared of the enemy, and a large number of prisoners taken when FRAITURE (P-5886) was seized. Late in the period the LAROCHE (P-4577) - SALMCHATEAU (P-6986) road was cut.

Regardless of the reinforcements received by the enemy during the previous day and the arrival of the 752nd Regiment, 326th Volksgrenadier Division along with elements of the 1560th Ersatz Battalion, the 12th Volksgrenadier Division was forced to yield LIERNEUX, LA FALISE and FRAITURE, but only after each town had become untenable. Tank support which had been furnished the 12th Volksgrenadier Division during the previous period by the 2nd SS Panzer Division was not apparent during the day, as all defensive fires were from anti-tank guns and automatic weapons placed at cross roads and along avenues of tank approach.

The 560th Volksgrenadier Division succeeded in holding DOCHAMPS (P-4983), although the defenders on either side of the town were forced to give way, leaving it flanked on both the east and west by our forces. The 2nd SS Panzer Division was likewise pushed back by our forces. The 4th Panzer Grenadier Regiment of that SS Division lost DEVANTAVE (P-4484) to our attack and the 3rd Panzer Grenadier Regiment was forced to give up additional ground in the wooded area south of BEFFE (P-4285).

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): Continued attack against stubborn enemy delaying action, capturing DEVANTAVE (P-4484), cleared more of the wooded area south of BEFFE (P-4285) while infantry elements followed in close support, mopping up by-passed groups of enemy

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and occupying the area gained.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Cleared the enemy from ELERNEUX (P-6188) and LA FALISE (P-6289), captured 400 prisoners when FRAITURE (P-5886) was seized and late in the period cut the LAROCHE (P-4577) - SALMCHATEAU (P-6986) road at P-572852.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry, with 290th Regimental Combat Team and 4th Cavalry Group, attached): Continued in close support of 2nd Armored Division, mopping up and taking over areas gained. Units also regrouped in preparation for attack.

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Continued to hold a defensive line along the TRILE - CHESLAING (P-5491) - BERGIFAZ (P-5994), road. Elements of 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, continued to hold positions on the 3rd Armored Division's right flank. While the 1st Battalion occupied AISNE (P-4597).

75th Infantry Division (less Regimental Combat Teams 290 and 291): Regimental Combat Team 291 moved to the XVIII (Airborne) Corps zone and was attached to that Corps upon arrival. The 289th Infantry continued to hold a defensive line along AISNE River and had light contact with the enemy. Location of units at the close of the period was as follows: 1st Battalion, P-460875 - P-474865; 3rd Battalion, P-475866 - P-478866 - P-496875 with Company I at P-486885, and 2nd Battalion, P-497887 - P-508882 - P-511895.

2nd Armored Division

Combat Command Collier attacked at 0830 hours. Task Force A held while Task Force B, reinforced by a medium tank company from Task Force A, seized DEVANTAVE (P-4484) against moderate resistance including mortar, artillery and small arms fire. At the close of the period 3rd Battalion, 290th Infantry relieved Task Force B. Other elements of the 290th Infantry relieved Task Force A of positions south of BEFFE (P-4285) and the Task Force moved to the east between Task Forces B and D, seizing the town of LAID PRANGELEUX (P-4683), the fifth of the Division's initial objectives. Task Force D secured objective 6, CROIX DE LAID PRANGELEUX (P-4783). Task Force C also advanced to the southeast, reaching P-482850.

The entire front within the zone of Combat Command White was pushed forward, especially on the flanks where the greatest gains were made when the attack was resumed at 1000. Task Force Y flanked DOCHAMPS (P-4983) on the east (left) in conjunction with the left flank elements of Combat Command Collier (Task Forces D and C) which had advanced in toward the town on the right. Task Force X advanced to the line of POUNAMB-DU-FIRE (P-5485) - FOND-DE-HAZIEUX-FA (P-5585) on the right flank of Combat Command White and at the close of the period were in the process of being relieved in that vicinity by elements of 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry.

3rd Armored Division

Task Force Hogan of Combat Command Howze (Reserve) which had moved in on the extreme right of the Division zone, continued to advance through the

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day, initially against moderate resistance. Hasty road blocks consisting of trees felled across the highway delayed the advance of the right (west) column while the left group encountered mines. Adequate by-passes were not available and infantry were sent forward while the work of clearing the road was in progress and out the main east-west highway from LAROCHE (P-4577) - SALMCHATEAU (P-6986) at P-573853 and P-572852. At the close of the period clearing operations were still in progress to enable tanks to reinforce these road blocks. A company of infantry was still in contact with the enemy in the vicinity of CROIX ST JACQUES (P-5686).

Task Force Stallings continued to press the attack south over difficult terrain on the right flank of Combat Command Boudinot and by 1215 hours had reached the outskirts of FRAITURE (P-5886). Infantry elements advanced into the town and stubborn house to house fighting took place during the afternoon. At the close of the period and estimated 400 prisoners had been taken; mopping up operations were completed, FRAITURE secured and final positions reached astride the road to REGNE (P-6185) in the vicinity of P-5986.

The high ground south of LIERNEUX (P-6188) in the vicinity of P-617-884 was the objective of Task Force McGeorge which had the mission of supporting by fire the attack of Task Force Richardson (right flank elements of Combat Command Hickey) on LIERNEUX. This objective was reached against heavy artillery and mortar fire, and suitable terrain secured from which to support Task Force Richardson. The attack was later continued to the south. Prior to halting for the night the high ground in the vicinity of P-613870 had been seized and secured.

Task Force Richardson attacked at 0800 meeting strong resistance from the enemy in LIERNEUX. Fire of all types was encountered, but during the morning most of the dug-in enemy infantry had been eliminated and early in the afternoon the town was occupied and secured. The Task Force then continued to advance to the south and the high ground in the vicinity of P-624883 was occupied at 1330 hours, aided by the support of Task Force McGeorge. By 1420 infantry were again advancing and at the close of the period had seized the objective high ground overlooking VERLEUMONT (P-6287). During the night of 6-7 January mines were being removed along the highway in the vicinity of P-622887 and a crossing being prepared over the LIENNE River tributary to enable tanks to be brought up. Patrols were also active to the southeast toward VERLEUMONT.

During the night (5/6 January) the 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, moved from positions at RARMONT (P-5994) to replace the 3rd Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry in Task Force Doan. By 0745 hours the 1st Battalion, 36th Armored Infantry, had passed through its 3rd Battalion, and at 0800 the advance of Task Force Doan was resumed. By 0930 elements of Task Force Doan had reached the cross roads at P-617893 and were in contact with elements of Task Force Richardson. Mopping up operations were completed in the towns of LA VAUX(P-6289) and LA FALISE (P-6289) and by 1230 bridging operations across the stream at P-626894 were in progress. Crossings over the LIENNE River branch were completed at 1435 and the advance to the southeast continued against heavy mortar and artillery fire to the objective in the vicinity of P-643885. Patrols were initiated toward the town of GRAND-SART (P-6587).

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The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued its mission of sweeping the area between the routes of advance of Combat Command Boudinot. A reinforced company was assigned the task of advancing and securing the BOIS HOUBY (P-5987 - P-6087) which was completed by the end of the day although dug-in enemy machine gun resistance had to first be overcome.

84th Infantry Division

The 290th Infantry continued in close support of Combat Command Collier, 2nd Armored Division, advancing in back of leading tank elements, occupying ground gained and mopping up by-passed groups of enemy. The Regiment was relieved from Task Force Church at 1400 hours. The 3rd Battalion, 290th Infantry, relieved Task Force B of Combat Command Collier in the vicinity of DEVANTAVE (P-4484). Company B moved to the top of the hill, filling the gap left by the move of the 3rd Battalion to DEVANTAVE, and occupied positions at P-412851 - P-420855. Companies A and C held positions in the vicinity of BEFFE (P-4285) and the 2nd Battalion was deployed as follows: Company E, P-435848 - P-441851; Company F, P-443856; Company G, P-445861 - P-451862.

Supporting the left flank elements of the 3rd Armored Division (Combat Command White), the 333rd Infantry advanced behind the tank elements and secured the area gained. Pockets of enemy were mopped up in the woods in the vicinity of P-4886 against stubborn opposition. This area was cleared by the 3rd Battalion. Company C occupied ODEIGNE (P-5386) while other elements of the 1st Battalion advanced behind Task Force Y to reach positions astride the road leading to that town in the vicinity of P-5286. Company A was south of the road and Company B to the north. The 2nd Battalion relieved Task Force X on the line in the vicinity of P-5585 at the close of the period. Elements of the 334th Infantry remained in reserve. Reconnaissance was conducted along L'OURTHE River in preparation for the attack of 7 January.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 143 rounds as follows: 28 preparation, 35 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 24 close support, 4 counterbattery, 13 tank, 27 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5412.

84th Division: Fired 194 missions as follows: 15 preparation, 4 personnel, 14 close support, 4 counterbattery, 153 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2491.

Corps: Fired 148 missions as follows: 58 preparation, 16 personnel, 2 close support, 9 counterbattery, 2 tank, 38 interdiction and harassing, and 23 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3741.

One battalion of the 83rd Div fired 16 missions for the 3rd Armd Div expending 326 rounds.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

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Tank Destroyers: The 702nd TD Bn (SP) expended 32 rounds of 90mm HE and 27 rounds of 90mm APC, direct fire, knocking out a Mk V tank, 3 Mk IV tanks, 4 vehicles, and 3 anti-tank guns.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 531.

7 JANUARY 1945

Armored units captured GRAND-SART (P-6587), SART (P-6587) and VERLEUMONT (P-6387), cut the main east-west road between LAROCHE (P-4577) and SAINCHATEAU (P-6986), seized REGNE (P-6185), and also entered DOCHAMPS (P-4983) where stubborn enemy resistance was encountered with hard fighting in progress at the end of the period. Infantry elements following in the wake of the armor, mopped up enemy groups that had been by-passed, captured MARCOURAY (P-4381) and cleared the wooded area south of BEFFE (P-4285). A total of 571 prisoners were captured during the day, making a total of 1680 captured since the attack was launched on 3 January.

The substantial gains made by our troops were achieved against all three major divisions opposite the Corps front as indications of mounting enemy casualties continued to accumulate. The initial advance of our troops during the morning were opposed in most cases by small arms and light artillery fire. The 12th Volksgrenadier Division employed the greater part of its artillery regiment as infantry, but were forced to yield REGNE, VERLEUMONT and the important cross roads at P-576853 early in the period, and by midafternoon was fighting from SART and GRAND-SART, both of which were also lost. However, from this area resistance increased as greater use was made of artillery and self-propelled gun fire emplaced on the commanding ground of the vicinity.

After having protected DOCHAMPS from perimeter defenses for two days, the 560th Volksgrenadier Division was forced to fight from within the town as our forces closed in. At the close of the period the defenders were being subjected to mopping-up operations. Other elements of the Division were likewise forced to fall back southward on both sides of the town to the edge of the woods.

The 2nd SS Panzer Division also waged an unsuccessful fight to hold MARCOURAY against our infantry and even threw the assault gun battalion into the line as infantry as it was forced to yield ground to the south. The resistance offered by this "Das Reich" Division was less than encountered during the previous two days, due perhaps to the fact that the SS troops were surprised by our infantry attack and to the fact that preparations had been made to combat armor rather than infantry.

No air support was again available as the weather continued very cold with snow flurries that developed into a heavy snowfall during the evening. Visibility throughout the day was extremely poor.

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): Advanced across the Division front with three separate task forces cutting the main east-west road from LAROCHE (P-4577) to SAINCHATEAU (P-6986) in various places, while other elements were mopping up enemy resistance in DOCHAMPS (P-4983).

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3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry and 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, attached): Captured GRAND-SART (P-6587), SART (P-6587), VERLEUMONT (P-6387) and REGNE (P-6185) with other elements advancing to the main east-west road from LAROCHE (P-4577) to SALMCHATEAU (P-6986) where a road block was established at the important CR (P-576853).

83rd Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry and 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, with Regimental Combat Team 290 and 4th Cavalry Group, attached): Captured MARCOURAY (P-4381), maintained contact with elements of the British forces on the right, continued the advance to the south in close support of the 2nd Armored Division, and cleared the enemy from the wooded area south of BERTE (P-4285).

84th Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Completed regrouping and reconnoitered in preparation for attacking. The 83rd Reconnaissance Troop moved to REGNE (P-6185), the 3rd Battalion, 329th Infantry took up positions in HIERLOT (P-6192) with Company L in BRA (P-5793). There was no other change of locations.

75th Infantry Division (less Regimental Combat Teams 290 and 291): Was attached to XVIII (Airborne) Corps at 1030.

2nd Armored Division

The 2nd Armored Division continued its mission of pinching out DOCHAMPS (P-4983) and by the end of the period enemy resistance in the town was subjected to mopping-up operations after offering stubborn opposition to our forces. Task Force A of Combat Command Collier attacked at 0830 hours to secure the objective high ground south of DOCHAMPS at P-490828, but was held up by mines and anti-tank fire in the vicinity of P-475832 along the road west of LE WATE (P-4883). Elements of Task Force A by-passed this strong point to the south but again encountered anti-tank fire and operations were halted at 1730 hours with the Force holding positions in the vicinity of P-483830. Task Force C attacked toward DOCHAMPS and encountered stiff resistance in addition to very difficult terrain. The only possible route of advance for tanks due to the weather conditions was along the roads, and three road blocks, stubbornly defended, in addition to mines covered by small arms and tank fire had to be eliminated. Nevertheless, slow progress was made and DOCHAMPS entered by tank-infantry elements at 1700 hours. Fighting continued in the town throughout the remainder of the period with mopping up operations in process by our forces. Task Force D maintained contact with Task Forces A and C, and screened the area between these two attacking groups. At the close of the day Task Force D was at P-481841; Task Force B remained in the vicinity of P-465840 throughout the day.

Task Force Y moved from the vicinity of P-455901 to P-555855 within the zone of Combat Command White and attacked south to cut the main east-west road from LAROCHE (P-4577) to SALMCHATEAU (P-6986), advancing against small arms and anti-tank fire to reach its objective at P-555835, south of the main road junction at P-554836. Meanwhile, the other column of Combat Command White, Task Force X, attacked to support the advance of the 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry. No opposition was encountered, and this Force moved

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directly to its objective, the LAROCHE-SALMCHATEAU Road, and organized a road block at P-545847. The objective was reached at 1015 hours. Patrols were sent to the east and contact established with Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division.

Task Force R (Reserve) attacked from the vicinity of CELIGNE (P-5486) at 1000 and moved directly south to the vicinity of P-537838 where it was held up by anti-tank fire and road blocks. After the road block was reduced, some slight gains were made, and at the end of the day the most forward position of this Force was P-533835.

3rd Armored Division

Having reached the important cross road (P-576853) of the east-west road from LAROCHE (P-4577) - SALMCHATEAU (P-6986) at the close of the previous period, Task Force Hogan continued to work during the early hours of 7 January to bring up tank support for road blocks which were established at P-573853 and P-572851. Felled trees and mines were removed from the enemy road block at P-572856. At 1300 the Force moved tanks in on its objective, and deployed these armored units to support the road blocks. Contact was maintained with 2nd Armored Division elements to the west (right) and Task Force Lovelady to the east (left). Other units of Combat Command Howze (Reserve) held previous positions.

Combat Command Boudinot attacked REGNE (P-6185) at 0800. Task Force McGeorge advanced against very light resistance and entered the town at 0860 hours, meeting opposition there that consisted of small arms, mortar and artillery fire. At 1253 Task Force McGeorge, assisted by Task Force Lovelady (temporarily Task Force Stallings) which had moved into the town from the northwest, had completed clearing enemy resistance in REGNE, and resumed its advance to the east. Task Force Lovelady remained in REGNE. After leaving the town Task Force McGeorge encountered stubborn enemy resistance consisting of small arms, mortar and artillery fire and three enemy tanks, one of which was destroyed. Positions were organized at P-628856 - P-627853 and reinforcements - a company of medium tanks and a company of infantry from Task Force Lovelady - dispatched to bolster the defenses. Infantry elements of Task Force McGeorge left on the high ground in the vicinity of P-617864 on 6 January to assist the attack of Task Force Richardson, rejoined Task Force McGeorge.

Elements of the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued to occupy and garrison the high ground in the vicinity of P-597873 while other units of the Battalion held positions to the northwest in the BOIS DE GROUMONT.

When Task Force Richardson resumed the attack at 0800, initial resistance was very light. By 0915 leading elements had entered the town of VERLEUMONT (P-6287) against small arms fire and considerable enemy artillery. At 1115 the town was cleared of the enemy, and Task Force Richardson sent one column east to seize SART while a tank-infantry team moved south to secure the high ground in the vicinity of P-630869. Both forces encountered minefields at the exits to VERLEUMONT. Infantry passed through the tanks and breaching operations begun. At 1145 the group moving south had cleared

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a lane through [illegible] and was pushing infantry supported by armored units against the objective high ground. At 1330 infantry reached P-630869, and by 1400 had mopped up all enemy opposition in the woods there. At 1200 elements of Task Force Richardson advancing on SART had breached the minefield on the eastern edge of VERLEUMONT and continued the attack against the objective. Determined enemy resistance was encountered and at the close of the period this group had reached a point at approximately P-646882.

Task Force Doan attacked at 0850 hours, having been delayed while waiting for the unit on the left (82nd Airborne Division) to come abreast. Initially resistance was light as far as the vicinity of P-648882 where the column came under small arms, mortar and artillery fire. The advance on GRAND-SART (P-6587) continued until leading elements reached the northwestern edge of the town where a minefield covered by anti-tank fire was encountered. An attempt to by-pass the town to the south was made but due to heavy anti-tank fire from positions south and southeast of GRAND-SART prevented it. Continued pressure finally caused the enemy to withdraw from the town, however, and at 1650 Task Force Doan seized GRAND-SART and continued the advance toward SART (P-6587). This town was occupied and by the close of the period was secured. Elements left in GRAND-SART were relieved by a unit of the 82nd Airborne Division at 2305 and other troops from the 82nd Airborne Division took over the road block at P-661876.

84th Infantry Division

The 334th Infantry had the mission of attacking from the vicinity of DEVANTAVE (P-4484) to seize MARCOURAY (P-4381). Accordingly, the Regiment attacked at 0730 hours with the 1st Battalion capturing the objective by 1545 against relatively light resistance. The 2nd Battalion advanced against stubborn opposition to reach positions along the road through the BOIS DE CORE in the vicinity of P-445829 - P-446835. The 3rd Battalion remained in reserve northeast of DEVANTAVE in the vicinity of P-455850.

Mopping up operations were completed by the 1st Battalion, 290th Infantry, south of BEFFE (P-4285) during the period and at 1800 this unit was attached to the 4th Cavalry Group. Contact was maintained with the British by Company C. The operation in the wooded area below BEFFE was carried out in conjunction with the attack of the 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry. Company C held positions at P-412848 - P-392875 while the remainder of the 1st Battalion was located at P-417842 - P-422845 - P-425846. The 2nd Battalion remained assembled in the vicinity of P-4385 and the 3rd Battalion continued to hold positions in DEVANTAVE.

Continuing in close support of Combat Command White, 2nd Armored Division, units of the 333rd Infantry advanced southeast at 0830 eliminated pocket of resistance with the 3rd Battalion clearing the woods to reach P-538850 - P-528849, and the 2nd Battalion cutting the main LAROCHE (P-4577) - SALMCHATEAU (P-5986) road in the vicinity of P-5684. The 1st Battalion, less Company A, was attached to Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division at 1800 to relieve elements of the 83rd Division holding CR (P-576853).

Elements of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron executed road blocking missions in the vicinity of BEFFE and AMONINES. The road from

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DEVANTAVE to the vicinity of LAID PRANGLEUX (P-4783) was reconnoitered and trails southwest of that town. The road leading southeast from ANCINES was patrolled as far as the rear elements of Combat Command Collier of the 2nd Armored Division. These forces on the Corps flank were prepared for any enemy movement across L'OURTHE River. Other units of the 4th Cavalry Group continued in previous positions in reserve.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 208 missions as follows: 27 preparation, 65 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 7 close support, 11 counterbattery, 20 tank, 72 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6362.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 188 missions as follows: 6 preparation, 17 personnel, 7 close support, 1 counterbattery, 3 tank, 150 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6611.

83rd Division: Fired 12 miscellaneous missions, expending 241 rounds.

84th Division: Fired 161 missions as follows: 10 preparation, 6 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 4 close support, 1 counterbattery, 2 tank, 112 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3327.

Corps: Fired 92 missions as follows: 7 preparation, 6 personnel, 8 close support, 1 counterbattery, 5 tank, 56 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2431.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 571.

8 JANUARY 1945

Despite a heavy snow that started late in the previous period and continued through the early hours of the morning, VII Corps pressed its attack to the south and east making good progress. On the right, mopping up operations were completed in DOCHAMPS (P-4983), CIELLE (P-4479), MANCOURT (P-4281) and CONSY (P-4384) were captured with the woods between the last two places cleared, and patrols maintained along L'OURTHE River. On the left of the Corps HERBEUVAL (P-6386), JOUBIEVAL (P-6586), OTTRE (P-6485) and PROVEDROUX (P-6885) were all seized and cleared of enemy.

Even with the aid of the snow storm which proved a very effective ally and almost as formidable an adversary to our forces as the Germans themselves, the enemy was forced steadily to the south and east along the entire Corps front. In the center of the zone he was able to slow our advances and limit them to between 1000 to 1500 yards. However, on our right and left flanks his moderate anti-tank, small arms, mortar and artillery fires coupled

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with mines did no more than retard momentarily our columns which cleared the above mentioned towns. The greatest barrier to our troops proved to be the extensive minefield south of LIERNEUX (P-6188) and the commanding ground south of DOCHAMPS where an estimated 10 tanks were employed against our advance.

The 9th SS Panzer Divisions and the 26th Volksgrenadier Division were identified on the Corps front, both of which were believed to have been reserve forces in the break-through area. The 2nd SS Panzer, 116th Panzer, and 12th and 560th Volksgrenadier Divisions still remained in contact plus a conglomeration of GHQ, Engineer and other miscellaneous battalions.

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): DOCHAMPS (P-4983) was cleared of the enemy during the morning, and the attack resumed. Deep snow and slippery roads hampered all movement but slight gains were made to the south toward SAMREE (P-5081) and toward that town from the north-east along the LARCHE (P-4577) - SALMCHATEAU (P-6986) Road.

3rd Armored Division (2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry and 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, attached): Although the snow and slippery road conditions limited operations, contact was made with elements of the 82nd Airborne Division and the towns of HEBRONVAL (P-6386), JOUBIEVAL (P-6586), OTTRE (P-6485) and PROVEDROUX (P-6885) cleared of enemy resistance.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry, and 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, with Regimental Combat Team 290 and 4th Cavalry Group, attached): Seized and cleared CIELLE (P-4479), MARCOURT (P-4291) and CORSY (P-4384), also cleared the wooded area between the last two places, and maintained patrols along L'OURTHE River.

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry): Regrouped units in forward zone preparatory to attacking through the 3rd Armored Division. Had no contact with the enemy. Locations of units were as follows: 331st Infantry: 1st Battalion, VAUX CHAVANNE (P-5491), 2nd Battalion, JEVIGNE (P-5990), 3rd Battalion, LIERNEUX (P-6188); 329th Infantry: 1st Battalion, BRA (P-5793), 2nd Battalion, LIERNEUX (P-6188), 3rd Battalion, VERLEUMONT (P-6287); 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, LA'STVAL (P-6090).

2nd Armored Division

In spite of the adverse weather conditions which made the difficult terrain even harder to negotiate, the 2nd Armored Division renewed its efforts to capture SAMREE (P-5081). Task Force A of Combat Command Collier attacked from the vicinity of LE WATE (P-4883) at 0830 hours to seize the high ground at P-491828 and then SAMREE to the southeast. Anti-tank fire held up the advance in the vicinity of P-482830. The extremely limited visibility prevented accurate artillery adjustment on dug-in enemy tanks.

Task Force B moved to DOCHAMPS (P-4983) with the mission of attacking south to aid Task Force A in seizing its objectives. The column moved out at 1330 hours, but was unable to attack the objective at P-491828 from the northeast as the steep, slippery terrain would not permit the movement of

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tanks. The Task Force moved out of DOCHAMPS to the northwest and at the close of the period was in the fringe of the woods at P-484840, unable to move south over the open terrain due to the fire from approximately 10 enemy tanks on the commanding ground at P-494829. Task Force A in the meantime was stopped at P-482830.

Positions in DOCHAMPS were consolidated by Task Force C and patrols sent east into the woods without making contact. Task Force D was also committed during the day, moving to the right of Task Force A to secure the objective at P-488821. Unable to find a route suitable for movement through the woods west of LE MATE, this group returned to the east of Task Force A and maintained contact between Task Forces A and B, holding positions in the vicinity of P-483833 - P-484843 at the close of the period.

While Task Force X remained in the woods in the vicinity of P-555855, Task Force Y of Combat Command White attacked to the west along the REGNE (P-6185) - LAROCHE (P-4577) Road with the mission of securing it as far west as P-545829 and blocking for the attack of Task Force R. The advance was halted in the vicinity of P-553837 by direct fire from dug-in self-propelled guns, artillery pieces and anti-tank weapons.

Task Force R (Reserve) attacked to cut the REGNE-LAROCHE Road and to continue west to SAVREE. A strong point in the vicinity of P-538833, consisting of dug-in positions, log fortifications, anti-tank and self-propelled guns, was encountered which stopped the advance. Artillery and nebelwerfer fire was very heavy. The task force was heavily engaged throughout the remainder of the period, making two coordinated attacks on this enemy position. After darkness Task Force R was reorganized. All operations were severely hampered by weather conditions which cut visibility to as low as 25 yards and prevented the maneuvering of tanks.

3rd Armored Division

Task Force Hogan with elements of the 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, continued to secure the cross road at P-576853 throughout the day, manning road blocks at P-586843 and P-578838. Other elements of Combat Command Howze, Task Force Kane, remained in assembly positions in the vicinity of BURGIFAZ (P-5994).

REGNE (P-6185) continued to be secured by Task Force Lovelady of Combat Command Boudinot which held positions throughout the day in that important road center town. Armored patrols were sent out to the west and made contact with Task Force Hogan at CR(P-576853) during the morning and opened the main road between CR (P-576853) and REGNE. Task Force Welborn (formerly Task Force McGeorge) continued the attack to the east at 0800 to secure HEBRONVAL (P-6386). The Task Force advanced steadily throughout the morning and by 1112 elements had reached the town which was cleared of enemy resistance by 1200 hours. Task Force Welborn then turned southeast and attacked toward OUTRE (P-6485). Two minefields had to be breached and strong opposition was encountered from enemy infantry with some anti-tank and artillery fire, but by 1705 the town had been seized and secured.

In the zone of Combat Command Hickey, Task Force Richardson renewed the offensive at 0800 hours and by 0930 had secured the road junction village

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of HALT (P-6586), north of JOUBIEVAL (P-6586). The attack was continued south and JOUBIEVAL taken at 1100. From the town the attack was resumed to the southeast toward the high ground and secondary road centers in the vicinity of P-6685. This final objective was secured by 1830 hours although considerable opposition was encountered from dug-in tanks, artillery and anti-tank fire.

Meanwhile Task Force Doan held positions in and around SART (P-6587) during the morning while waiting for Task Force Richardson to come abreast by securing the road junction in HALT. When this objective had been secured Task Force Doan moved out to seize the cross road south of SART. From this CR, Task Force Doan continued the attack to the south against dug-in infantry, anti-tank and artillery fire. At 1530 elements of the Task Force were in PROVEDROUX (P-6885) and by 1830 this objective was secured and organized for the night.

Lateral patrols maintained contact between all task forces throughout the night. Operations of the Division were greatly handicapped by the snow storm and poor visibility.

84th Infantry Division

Continuing the attack to the south in compliance with its mission to secure the line of L'OURTHE River, the 1st Battalion, 290th Infantry, operating in conjunction with elements of the attached 4th Cavalry Group, attacked south at 0745 hours, cleared the woods on the Division right flank and proceeded against isolated sniper resistance to MARCOURT (P-4281) which was seized by 1400 hours. Meanwhile elements of the Cavalry Group secured the line of L'OURTHE River from RENDEUX-BAS (P-4085) to JUPILLE (P-4381).

Other units operating with the Cavalry reconnoitered the trail from DEVANTAVE (P-4484) to MARCOURAY (P-4381). Elements of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron and Company C, 298th Engineer Combat Battalion, cleared the main road from MARCOURAY to CONSY (P-4385). Elements of the 4th Cavalry Squadron assembled in the former town while the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron remained in BEFFE (P-4285), except for Troops B and C which maintained combat patrols along the OURTHE River. The 759th Light Tank Battalion closed in TRINAL (P-4186) at 0730. Anti-tank defenses were established by elements of the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion in BEFFE and DEVANTAVE. Elements of the 298th Engineer Combat Battalion were assigned the mission of keeping roads clear of snow drifts in the Group rear area.

At 0730 the 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, attacked to the south and secured the high ground in the vicinity of P-433834 by 0835 hours. At the close of the period the 2nd Battalion was enroute to CIELE (P-4479) which was captured by the 1st Battalion during the afternoon. The 3rd Battalion of this Regiment held positions at P-456848. The 2nd Battalion, 290th Infantry, attacked from the vicinity of DEVANTAVE at 0730 hours against light scattered resistance, followed by the 3rd Battalion at 0900, echeloned to the right rear. The objective high ground in the vicinity of P-4782 was seized, and the units prepared for future operations to the southeast. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 333rd Infantry, continued in close support of combat Command White, 2nd Armored Division. Both units advanced during the day with

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the 2nd Battalion reaching the line: P-562847 - P-565843 - P-570847, and the 3rd Battalion, P-517844 - P-525839. Company A was in position at P-530837 while other elements of the 1st Battalion were attached to Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 197 missions as follows: 32 preparation, 41 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 4 counterbattery, 30 close support, 31 tank, 32 interdiction and harassing, and 23 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 11,787.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 190 missions as follows: 9 preparation, 22 personnel, 8 mortar and machine gun, 34 close support, 4 counterbattery, 3 tank, and 110 interdiction and harassing. Rounds expended: 4130.

83rd Division: Fired 82 missions as follows: 62 interdiction and harassing, and 20 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1490.

84th Division: Fired 159 missions as follows: 4 preparation, 2 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 14 close support, 130 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2700.

Corps: Fired 140 missions as follows: 49 preparation, 6 personnel, 16 close support, 1 counterbattery, 13 tank, and 55 interdiction and harassing. Rounds expended: 3767.

Corps Arty fired a heavy interdiction program in the SAMREE (P-5081) area during the night. In addition, HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) was hit with 240mm harassing fire throughout the night of 7/8 January. There was no improvement in visibility during the period with the heaviest snowfall of the winter falling. Over 2 inches of snowfall was recorded by the weather detachment with the Corps.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 702nd TD Bn fired 10 rounds of 90mm HE and 11 rounds of 90mm APC direct fire, knocking out an anti-tank gun. The 703rd TD Bn expended 11 rounds of 90mm HE and [illegible] rounds of 90mm AP direct fire with results unknown.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 352.

9 JANUARY 1945

Armored units having secured intermediate objectives during the previous period were passed through by infantry as the attack was continued to the southeast with some progress being made on the flanks despite deep snow and slippery roads. Only small gains were made in the attack toward SAMREE (P-5081), while other units reached BIHAIN (P-6284) where heavy fighting for the town was still in progress at the close of the period.

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Not one offensive move was made by the enemy during the day on the Corps front, but evidence of his determination to stand and hold our advance to the south was revealed early in the period. Our attack was slowed throughout the day and in some places halted. Employing his well known tactics of building his defenses around city and town strong points, he chose BIHAIN on our left flank and SAMREE on the right as suitable centers of resistance. Intense small arms fire from BIHAIN was received throughout the period as well as direct artillery fire. The 1st and 2nd Battalions, 60th Panzer Grenadier Regiment (116th Panzer Division) defended SAMREE tenaciously. The enemy made use of road blocks, dugin tanks, infantry and a moderate amount of artillery and mortars in the defense of both towns.

The identification of the 116th Panzer Reconnaissance and 60th Panzer Grenadier Regiment of the 116th Panzer Division in the vicinity of SAMREE plus both regiments of 2nd SS ("Das Reich") Panzer Division in the center of the Corps zone clearly indicated the enemy was gradually side slipping to the east and presaged his withdrawal from the western extremity of the ARDENNES salient.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry, with Regimental Combat Team 290 and 4th Cavalry Group, attached): Mopped up in the thick woods south of CR (P-576853), maintained road blocks at P-560841 - P-576852 - P-578838 - P-587843, and P-584852, cleared the woods northeast of SAMREE (P-5081), attacked and seized the high ground in the vicinity of P-4679, establishing road blocks at P-457798 and P-458794, while Cavalry elements patrolled the east bank of L'OURTHE River from FARNEUR (P-4478) to MARCOURT (P-4281).

2nd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): Seized the high ground in the vicinity of P-490827. Only small gains were made as elements of both Combat Commands Collier and White renewed the attack toward the objective of SAMREE (P-5081). Deep snow and icy roads hampered movement.

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry): Attacked through the lines held by 3rd Armored Division, reaching BIHAIN (P-6284) where fighting continued at the close of the period.

3rd Armored Division (2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry, attached): held positions along the line seized the previous day with the 83rd Infantry Division attacking through its front lines; began regrouping, maintenance and rehabilitation.

84th Infantry Division

The 1st Battalion, 290th Infantry and Troops A and B, 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron occupied positions in MARCOURT (P-4281) during the period. Other elements of the Cavalry Squadron maintained contact with units in MARCOURT and with the 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry, in CIELLE (P-4479), and conducted patrols west and south to L'OURTHE River. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued to patrol the OURTHE River and west (right) flank of VII Corps, maintaining strong points at crossings and combat outpost along the River. Reconnaissance elements of the British 53rd (Welsh) Division were contacted at RENDEUX-BAS (P-4085) and MARCOURT.

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The line of the COURTE was thus secured between these two places and southeast to FARNEUR (P-4478) with the crossing at JUPILLE (P-4581) covered. The 759th Light Tank Battalion remained in Group reserve in the vicinity of TRUVAL (P-4186) and the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion maintained antitank defenses in BEFFE (P-4205), CONSY (P-4384) and DEVANTAVE (P-4484).

By 0300 hours the 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, had closed in the vicinity of CHELLE, and at 1100 that morning the Battalion attacked to the southwest through difficult terrain advancing to the high ground in the vicinity of P-4679, dominating LAROCHE (P-4577), where positions were organized. Road blocks were constructed at P-457794 and P-457797. The 1st Battalion remained in CHELLE and the 3rd Battalion, 334th Infantry, in the vicinity of P-456848.

At 1200 the 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, less Company A, was detached from Task Force Hogan, 3rd Armored Division, and reverted to Regimental and Division control, but remained in position at P-580832 - P-591852. Company A and the 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, attacked at 1100 and cleared the woods northeast of SAMREE (P-5081) reaching the line: P-509823 - P-510820 - P-520827. The 2nd Battalion of this Regiment patrolled to the south and southeast, mopped up in the woods south of CR (P-576853) and held road blocks in the vicinity of this important cross roads on the main LAROCHE-SAMREE Road at P-560841, P-570838, P-578838, P-587843 and P-594852.

2nd Armored Division

Task Forces A and B of Combat Command Collier attacked at 0730 to secure Division objectives 7 and 8, high ground in the vicinity of P-491825 and P-496824, with the ultimate objective of siezing SAMREE (P-5081). The attack was launched with Task Force A on the right and B on the left. Visibility was zero, and the deep snow and road conditions added greatly to the difficulty of the operation. An enemy strong point supported by dug-in tanks at FME DE BEMASSE (P-4882) was cleared and the advance continued across the high ground in the vicinity of P-491825. Task Force A advanced southeast clearing MASHEZ (P-4982) of enemy resistance. Ten enemy tanks were flushed out of this area but, due to the visibility, were able to successfully withdraw to the vicinity of SAMREE.

Both Task Forces were forced to limit the speed of the advance so that of the tanks due to the presence of enemy tanks, and slow progress was made. The icy condition of the slopes made tank movement difficult. At 1150 hours, objective 7 was completely cleared of enemy resistance, and both Task Forces worked to assemble their armored vehicles for the assault on Objective 8. Maneuverability being impossible, Task Force A was forced to discontinue the attack and remained in position at P-489816 - P-494817, from where enemy half-tracks and Mark V tanks positioned in SAMREE were taken under direct fire. Elements of 702nd (90mm) Tank Destroyer Battalion reported the destruction of a Mark V and a Mark VI tank. Precision artillery fire on SAMREE fired two more Mark V tanks which were located at P-516815.

Task Force B cleared Objective 8 of enemy resistance by 2125 hours and withdrew to defiladed positions on the objective. Task Force D screened the right flank of Task Force A and maintained contact with the 3rd Battalion, 290th Infantry, to the rear. At 1100, 4 enemy tanks in the vicinity of P-474816 were taken under fire.

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While Task Force X of Combat Command White continued the improvement of defensive positions in the vicinity of P-539855, P-559845, P-572846, Task Force Y attacked at 0830 and advanced to positions at P-545829. The attack was impeded by snow and fog, rendering visibility zero. The advance was stopped by direct anti-tank fire and small arms and mortar fire from a heavily defended enemy road block. Task Force Y established road blocks at P-542824, P-554837 and P-562836, and consolidated, no further advance being made.

Task Force R (Reserve) remained in active contact with the enemy throughout the night; 2 Mark IV tanks, an anti-tank gun and 3 assault guns were destroyed. Enemy positions were constantly reinforced under the cover of darkness with infantry and anti-tank guns. Fanatical resistance was offered to our attack in the morning at 1000. Key resistance was formed on road block at P-542828, heavily defended by mines, dug-in infantry, mortar, assault gun and nebelwerfer fire. All attempts to dislodge the enemy, remnants of the 560th Volksgrenadier Division, were unsuccessful. Division Reserve elements supported by 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, cleared the wooded area between Combat Command Collier and White.

83rd Infantry Division

The 3rd Armored Division having secured the line: CR (P-5785), REGNE (P-6185), OTTRE (P-6485), PROVEDROUX (P-6885) during the previous period, the Corps plan was for the 83rd Division to pass through the armored elements and seize a bridgehead over the LANGLIR River, (branch of the RONCE) in the vicinity of IANGLIR (P-6482) and clear the BOIS DE RONCE, northwest of BOVIGNY (P-7083).

On the right of the Division the 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, was assigned the mission of assembling in the STOCQUE (P-5989) - JEVIGNE (P-5990) - LANSIVAL (P-6090) area, attacking south to seize BIHAIN (P-6284) after passing through the front lines held by the 3rd Armored Division, reconnoitering between the LANGLIR River and the line of departure (3rd Armored Division's front lines) with particular attention to the woods southwest of BIHAIN, and maintaining contact with the 331st Infantry on the left and the adjacent friendly unit on the right.

Reinforced with tank, engineer and tank destroyer attachments, the 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry crossed the IP (P-603903) by motor, detrucked at REGNE (P-6185) and moved by foot to the assembly area in the vicinity of VERONVAL (P-6386) where they closed at 0800. Company B, which had remained in REGNE, moved south toward the quarries (P-626847), contacted the the enemy at 0855 hours and advanced to the line: P-622849 - P-621847 - P-628848, where they were ordered to remain.

The rest of the Battalion attacked to the southeast at 1140 with Company C leading and advanced against heavy small arms and light mortar and artillery fire to P-627839. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion was heavily engaged with the defenders of BIHAIN.

Attack plans of the 331st Infantry included the capture of LANGTR; seizure of a bridgehead, blocking along the line south of the River; RJ

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(P-638762) to a point northwest of RETIGNY (P-6876) at P-666763 to STERPIGNY (P-6777), along the FRANCE River to P-6880, and then continuing the attack southeast to seize the CLERMONT (P-7075) - LIMERIE (P-7069) area. The 2nd Battalion of this Regiment crossed the LD at 1330 (delayed because of weather and traffic conditions) and advanced against considerable resistance by tanks and AA fire to the line: P-645842 - P-651843. The 1st Battalion closed in LIMRNEUX (P-6188) at 1325 and the 3rd Battalion held positions at P-645842 - P-652842.

Objectives of the 329th Infantry were the capture of PETITE-LANGLIR (P-6583), the seizure of a bridgehead across the LANGLIR, and continuing the attack to secure the town of SOUVY (P-7177) and the high ground to the southwest and northeast in HAIE D'ATTRIMONT (P-7379) - (P-7480). The 3rd Battalion crossed the LD at 1130 and advanced against initially light resistance which later increased with 11 tanks reported on their front. Considerable direct fire was received late in the afternoon. Final positions of the 3rd Battalion, 329th Infantry, were: P-653843 - P-656842 - P-656844 - P-660845 - P-662842 - P-664842. The 2nd Battalion of this Regiment moved by motor to SART (P-6587), detrucked, crossing the LD at 1215 hours, and advanced against moderate small arms and machine gun fire to positions on the line: P-668846 - P-674843 - P-679849. The 1st Battalion closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of P-618890 at 1300 hours.

3rd Armored Division

Having reached its intermediate objective line, the 3rd Armored Division after being passed through by the 83rd Division was ordered by Commanding General, VII Corps, to perform maintenance and rehabilitation for the next two-three days before resuming the offensive to seize the objectives of BOVIGNY (P-7082) and the VAUX (P-6576) - CHERAIN (P-6677) area.

After the 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, assumed responsibility for the zone held by Task Force Hogan, and reverted to 84th Division control, Task Force Hogan assembled in REGNE (P-6185), closing there at 1750. There were no other changes among units of Combat Command Howze. Combat Command Boudinot continued to secure its objectives while being passed through by the 83rd Infantry Division. Task Force Lovelady then moved from REGNE to HEBRONVAL (P-6385) and Task Force Welborn moved from HEBRONVAL to OUTRE (P-6485). Both moves were completed by 1830.

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion swept BOIS DE GROUMONT (P-5887) and BOIS DE HOUBY (P-5987) of enemy and then assembled at FRAITURE (P-5886). In the zone of Combat Command Hickey, Task Force Doan completed mopping up isolated enemy infantry in the area of PROUEDROUX (P-6885) against moderate small arms, mortar and artillery fire. Patrol contact was maintained with Task Force Richardson and also with the 82nd Airborne Division. Task Force Richardson remained in previous positions throughout the period.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 152 missions as follows: 21 personnel, 43 preparation, 3 mortar and machine gun, 3 close support, 10 tank, 67

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interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5959.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 121 missions as follows: 17 preparation, 22 personnel, 9 close support, 6 counterbattery, 1 tank, 60 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3012.

83rd Division: Fired 227 missions as follows: 21 personnel, 5 mortar and machine gun, 30 close support, 1 counterbattery, 97 interdiction and harassing, and 73 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5651.

84th Division: Fired 149 missions as follows: 5 preparation, 1 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 15 close support, 1 counterbattery, 5 tank, 117 interdiction and haressing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4021.

Corps: Fired 140 rounds as follows: 34 preparation, 25 personnel, 5 close support, 8 counterbattery, 9 tank, 42 interdiction and harassing, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3839.

The 84th Div Arty, Corps Arty, and 5th Army Group Royal joined the 2nd Armd Div Arty in a heavy preparation for the attack of the 2nd Armd Div.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 hours was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 638th TD Bn (SP) fired 8 rounds of 76mm WE and 20 rounds of 76mm AP direct fire, knocking out 3 Mark IV tanks, 1 self-propelled gun, and a general purpose vehicle. The 702nd TD Bn (SP) fired 38 rounds of 90mm WE and 14 rounds of 90mm APC direct fire, knocking out a Mark IV and a Mark V tank.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 531.

10 JANUARY 1945

The Corps attack to the southeast continued. SA'REE (P-5081) and BITAM (P-6284), the two enemy points of resistance that defended so stubbornly the previous day, were cleared. Visibility was again poor with snow flurries falling through the day, which was the coldest thus far since the unabated freezing weather of 22 December set in.

Comparatively little resistance was encountered by our right flank elements as they moved into SA'REE early in the period and sent patrols into LAROCHE (P-4577), which was still occupied by the enemy. On the front of the 2d Armored Division no anti-tank guns, armor, nor minefields were encountered, but dug-in infantry aided by the difficult terrain and adverse weather held our forward movement to a minimum.

The initial advance on BITAM, which had met with light opposition but stiffened when our units entered the town the previous day, resolved into a long, hard fight for the village. House to house fighting was bitter and not until 1630 was BITAM reported cleared. Elsewhere along the eastern zone of the Corps the enemy fought stubbornly using dug-in infantry with automatic weapons, supported by heavy artillery and mortar fire. Just north of PETITE-HALLEUX (P-6972) 12 - 15 enemy tanks were dug-in delaying

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our advance.

This stiffened resistance on the Corps left flank, plus a definite shifting of the 2d SS Panzer Division toward the east and the lengthening of the 560th Volksgrenadier Division's sector toward the east, emphasized the fact that the Germans were gradually withdrawing from the deepest points of the salient. Prisoners of war stated our artillery broke up an intended counter-attack at 1100 from P-660839, east of PETITE-LANGLIER.

2nd Armored Division (1st and 2nd Battalions, 335th Infantry, attached): Continued attack, capturing SAPREE (P-5081). 3d Battalion, 335th Infantry, reverted to control of 84th Division.

84th Infantry Division (less 1st and 2nd Battalions, 335th Infantry, with 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, attached): Did not attack. Patrols contacted enemy in LAROCHE (P-4577) and elements of the 4th Cavalry Group maintained contact with the British 153d Brigade (XXX Corps) on Corps' right flank. Cavalry elements relieved 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry which assembled in the vicinity of [illegible] (P-3992).

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry): Cleared [illegible] (P-6284) of enemy resistance, repulsed counter-attack from PETITE-LANGLIER (P-6583), and engaged an enemy strong point of infantry and tanks in the vicinity of P-663837.

3d Armored Division (2nd and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry, attached): Held same positions as previous day with no enemy contact and maintained equipment.

2nd Armored Division

Task Force A of Combat Command Collier attached from its position on the high ground northwest of SAPREE (P-5081) at 0730 and advanced over the high ground toward the town. By 0930 this Task Force was in control of the western half of SAPREE. Enemy resistance was much lighter than the previous period. Task Force B which was to have coordinated its attack with Task Force A, was delayed by the difficult terrain. However, SAPREE and the objective high ground to the southwest and southeast at P-498807 and P-510812 were seized during the morning. Task Force A organized positions at P-494806, P-499805, and P-503808. Task Force B held positions from P-503808 to P-515809.

Task Force R (Reserve) advanced south against small arms and anti-tank fire and by the close of the period occupied a line approximately 1000 yards south of the main road leading east out of SAPREE in BOIS DE ST. JEAN from P-521809 to P-540811. At 1300 Task Force R, (less 2nd Bn 67th Armored Regiment), was attached to Combat Command Collier and Task Force D dissolved. Task Force Y established a series of road blocks at the following points: P-554836, P-558828, P-568835, P-577837, and P-588842. Task Force X held positions in the vicinity of FOND-DE-[illegible] (P-5595). Reorganization and assembly of units took place throughout the period.

83rd Infantry Division

At 0800 hours, the 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, less Company B, continued to clear the enemy from [illegible] (P-6284) in stubborn house to house

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fighting. Heavy machine gun fire was received from the woods south of BIHAIN and small arms fire from the town. Company B began the mission of clearing the woods at P-6384 at 0830 and completed this mission by 1030, assembling at 1030 in the vicinity of P-631848. From here they rode tanks into BIHAIN and joined the rest of the Battalion in clearing the town which was completed by 1830. Defensive positions were then taken up in BIHAIN and held throughout the period. Meanwhile the 83rd Reconnaissance Troop cleared quarries from P-623847 to P-629847.

The 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, attacked south at 0700 hours and advanced against enemy small arms, mortar, tank, and heavy artillery fire. At 1210, an enemy counter-attack from the vicinity of PETITE-LANGLIR (P-6583) and FM DE BEMT-RAND-CHENEUX (P-6683) was repulsed. The 2nd Battalion then advanced to the line: P-639846 - P-645845. The 3rd Battalion also attacked at 0700 and encountered small arms, tanks and artillery opposition. A strong point was encountered at P-645845. A coordinated attack was made against this enemy position with supporting tanks attacking down the road from the northwest and Company L flanking the enemy from the northeast. Two of the supporting tanks were destroyed, and one enemy tank was knocked out. At the close of the period the 3rd Battalion held the line: P-647844 - P-650843 - P-653844. The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, remained in reserve in an assembly area in the vicinity of P-6189.

Company E led the attack of the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, which was made to the south at 0800 in a column of companies, and by 1115 had crossed the ROER River. In this advance strong opposition was encountered from enemy tanks and artillery. Upon crossing the stream, the attack was turned to the east to reduce the strong point at P-664832, and the line: P-661837 - P-663831 - P-675834 - P-673845 was secured. The 3rd Battalion attacked south at 0830 and progressed against heavy enemy artillery fire and tank action to positions at P-653841 - P-654843 - P-658840. The 1st Battalion remained in assembly area until released from Division control at 1600. Company A then moved to P-676850.

Artillery

2nd Armd Div: Fired 103 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 38 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 2 close support, 47 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1698.

3rd Armd Div: Fired 142 missions as follows: 4 preparation, 38 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 36 close support, 13 counter-battery, 6 tank, 36 interdiction and harassing, and 22 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4804.

83rd Div: Fired 218 missions as follows: 24 personnel, 13 mortar and machine gun, 43 close support, 10 tank, 67 interdiction and harassing, and 81 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 9544.

84th Div: Fired 169 missions as follows: 6 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 3 close support, 3 counter-battery, 2 tank, 105 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2270.

Corps: Fired 110 missions as follows: 11 preparation, 38 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 8 counter-battery, 4 tank, 57 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3814.

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10 January 1945

Anti-aircraft: [illegible] reported by 104th AAA Bn.

Tank Destroyers: [illegible] rounds of 76mm AP, knocked out 3 tanks, 1 self-propelled gun, 1 general purpose vehicle.

[illegible] fired [illegible] rounds of 3" AP direct fire, knocked out 2 tanks and damaged 1 tank.

Prisoners of war captured during [illegible]: 134.

11 January 1945

While armored units regrouped and [illegible] elements continued the attack, moving up to three kilometers against heavy resistance to reach [illegible] (P-6584), [illegible] right flank entered and clearing part of [illegible] (P-6585). Four counter-attacks were released and a strong [illegible] close of the period which remained extremely quiet [illegible] around the zero mark.

Enemy pressure on the Corps front continued to be heavy, particularly on the left flank where elements of the 1st Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 9th SS Panzer Division, launched a counter-attack at 0915 hours against our forces in BIMLER (P-6584) area with infantry supported by four tanks. Suffering severe casualties in personnel, [illegible] two tanks, just east of PLATTE-LANGER (P-6583), the 27th Regiment of 12th Volks Grenadier Division was identified in the sector apparently diverted by 27th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, 9th SS Panzer Division.

Throughout the entire period the enemy made use of the high ground [illegible] occupied to the front of the Corps, especially on our left flank, and employed artillery, nebelwerfer, mortar, and roving tanks against our lines, cross intersections and on trails. Enemy [illegible] operated in the [illegible] area SCHMIDT (P-6081) which fell to our attack on 10 January, was subjected to accurate enemy artillery fire east of the town.

On the right flank of the Corps the enemy was slowly forced to withdraw to the south along the east bank of the ROER River [illegible] (P-4977) and leaving behind some troops to be flushed out of houses and cellars as [illegible] action.

A new boundary between VII and XVIII Corps became effective at 24.0, following the old boundary to P-650850 to P-677840, along [illegible] river to P-703830 to P-725847 to P-740834 to P-758826, extending our zone to the south east.

84th Infantry Division (less 333rd Infantry, with 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, attached): The 4th Cavalry Group relieved elements of 1st Battalion, 333th Infantry, patrolled right flank of the Corps east of [illegible] river as far as IARGEB (P-6577), which was cleared east of the river. The 333rd Infantry, less 3rd Battalion, reverted to Division control and the 334th Infantry

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was attached to 2nd Armored Division. 3rd Battalion, 334th Infantry, relieved 2nd Armored Division elements maintaining patrol contact with the enemy.

2nd Armored Division (333rd Infantry, attached): Regrouped. All elements of Task Force R (Reserve) reverted to parent units. Location of units was as follows: Combat Command Collier assembled vicinity LAMORMENIL (P-5086) and FREYNEUX (P-5186) with Task Force C at DOCHAMPS (P-4983); Combat Command White, vicinity LE BATTE (P-5188) with Task Force Y at P-542822 - P-560832; Companies A and C, 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, P-531809; 41st Armored Infantry Regiment, vicinity P-540837; 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, GRANDMENIL (P-5290), 2nd Battalion, P-561833 - P-580832, 1st Battalion, P-580832 - P-591852.

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Elements attacked from the vicinity of BIHAIN (P-6284) at 0120 hours (others at 0715 and 0900); repulsed counter-attack in the vicinity of P-625836, reduced strong point at P-647844, and repelled a light enemy attack at 1715. Attack was renewed at 2200 with units still advancing well at close of period, reaching LANGLIR, (P-6582).

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Infantry attacked from vicinity of BIHAIN (P-6284) late in afternoon and reached objective (P-627823) from where two enemy counter-attacks were repulsed. All armored units remained assembled, performing maintenance.

84th Infantry Division

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron maintained positions in CIELLE (P-4479) and on the high ground to the east of the town. Patrols advanced along the OURTHE River as far as LAROCHE (P-4577) which they entered, (at 0845 hours), taking 9 prisoners and reporting the eastern half of the town (east of the river) cleared. British patrols were contacted in the town at 1100. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron relieved elements of the 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry on the high ground at P-479791 and P-487813. Relief was completed at 1400. Patrols advanced as far as P-504796 and reported enemy positions in the vicinity had been abandoned. The 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion maintained anti-tank defenses in MARCOURAY (P-4981). The 759th Light Tank Battalion remained in Group reserve in TAVELT (P-4186).

Responsibility for the sector held by elements of Combat Command Collier, 2nd Armored Division, and attached elements of the 335th Infantry, was assumed by the 334th Infantry when its 3rd Battalion took over on the line: P-493805 - P-500805 - P-507806 - P-52881[illegible]. The 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry, was relieved by elements of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in CIELLE, but remained in that vicinity, while the 2nd Battalion continued assembled in the vicinity of BIHAIN (P-5992). The 335th Infantry upon completion of relief on the line reverted to Division control, and the 333rd Infantry was attached to the 2nd Armored Division. The 1st Battalion, 335th Infantry, closed in the vicinity of [illegible]AUX (P-4090) with the 3rd Battalion, and the 2nd Battalion in DOCHAMPS (P-4983).

Effective at 1200 a boundary between the 84th Infantry Division and the 2nd Armored Division on the left was set as follows: [illegible] River from the vicinity of P-4490 to [illegible] (P-4786), thence southeast

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along the line of the railroad to P-500344, southeast to P-540790 to P-590760, south along the 55th longitudinal grid line.

3rd Armored Division

At 1600 hours, the 1st Battalion of the attached 330th Infantry, with an armored infantry and engineer company attached, moved out from BIHAIN (P-6284) and attacked south to secure the line: P-610818 - P-620819 - P-629825. A rapid advance was made against slight resistance, and by 1900 the stream crossing had been secured on the objective (P-629833). Positions were organized on the objective for the night, preparatory to the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion passing through this line at first light. At dusk an enemy counter-attack of two tanks and infantry against this position was repulsed as was a later one at 2100 hours. One enemy tank was knocked out.

All organic units of the Division remained in previous locations and performed maintenance, except the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion, which moved from MOLAY (P-6185) to BIHAIN and then south to the vicinity of AU MOLAY (P-6382).

83rd Infantry Division

The 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, moved from positions in OTTAN (P-6485) to BIHAIN (P-6284). Company E attacked to the southeast at 0415 to clear the enemy from the woods in that sector. At 0930 a counter-attack against BIHAIN was pushed back at P-625836 when three of the five tanks supporting enemy infantry were destroyed, and the others withdrew. The enemy suffered very heavy losses in this action. By 1100 the 2nd Battalion had secured its objective and occupied a blocking position along the line: P-628832 - P-634827. At approximately 2100 hours the Battalion moved forward to secure the AU (P-637820) and to block from the AU northwest to LUNG-LUR River (P-633827). The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, began movement to forward assembly area north of BIHAIN at 0700, preparatory to attacking LUNG-LUR (P-6582). The attack was launched at 1015 and at the close of the period they held the line: P-637830 - P-641833 - P-643827. Resistance encountered during the day consisted of fire from dug-in tanks, small arms, machine guns, and heavy mortar and artillery fire.

An enemy strong point at P-646845 delayed the attack of the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, during the early part of the day. This enemy position was reduced by our artillery fire in the afternoon, and the Battalion attacked at 2000 hours and advanced to the edge of PETITE-LANGLUR (P-6583) at the close of the period, holding the line: P-652836 - P-653839.

At 0930 hours, the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, resumed its attack against heavy resistance from small arms fire, tanks and artillery. Deep drifted snow made progress slow and supporting tanks were held up. At 2200 the Battalion renewed the effort when a coordinated attack was launched from the line: P-653834 - P-654829 - P-660835 - P-660837 to take LANGLUR (P-6582) from the east. At the close of the period the Battalion was in LUNG-LUR.

The 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry, moved south to forward positions at 0800 hours from GRAND-SART (P-6587), crossed NONCE River at 1130, and advanced to the southeast to block east and south along the line: P-664828 -

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P-667828 - P-670836 - P-670845. An attack was made to the south by Company I at 0900 but was stopped by enemy tank fire from the vicinity of PETITE-LANGLIR. The 3rd Battalion attacked at 2200 to seize PETITE-LANGLIR. Heavy fire from tanks and machine guns defending the sunken road east of the town prevented any appreciable advance.

Units advanced well during the day against stubborn resistance and extremely adverse weather conditions, decisively defeating the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 19th Panzer Grenadier Regiment, in the enemy attack on BIHAIN, and inflicted heavy losses on the 27th Volksgrenadier Regiment (12th Volksgrenadier Division) in the PETITE-LANGLIR area. Combat efficiency was reported to be decreasing after the successful night attack due to casualties and the fact that attacking units had been exposed to zero or sub-freezing weather for three days without shelter.

Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 163 missions as follows: 42 preparation, 42 personnel, 3 machine gun and mortar, 6 close support, 7 counterbattery, 5 tank, 41 interdiction and harassing, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 9826.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 119 missions as follows: 20 preparation, 13 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 16 close support, 13 counterbattery, 2 tank, 49 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3426.

83rd Division: Fired 152 missions as follows: 16 preparation, 2 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 18 close support, 2 counterbattery, 7 tank, 64 interdiction and harassing, and 42 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3440.

84th Division: Fired 24 missions as follows: 2 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 1 close support, 2 counterbattery, 2 tank, 10 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 434.

Corps: Fired 136 missions as follows: 26 preparation, 15 personnel, 36 counterbattery, 2 tank, 54 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3203.

Antiaircraft: Between 1600 and 1620 approximately 12 FW-190s were over the VII Corps area, apparently on reconnaissance as no hostile acts were committed. The aircraft came in at high level and afforded poor antiaircraft targets. No claims were made by the 438th AAA (AW) Bn which engaged 5 FW-190s at extreme range. The 453rd AAA (AW) Bn with the 83rd Div claimed 2 category IIs. Planes were also engaged over the forward area (where they appeared to have spent most of their time) by 468th AAA (AW) Bn which made no claims although the planes left the area upon being engaged.

Tank Destroyers: The 629th TD Bn supported the 83rd Div in its attack on LANGLIR (P-6982) and aided materially in repelling a counter-attack in the BIHAIN (P-6283) area. In the former action 1 Mark V tank which had been holding up infantry was hit and forced to withdraw; another Mark V was hit causing the crew to abandon it; 1 Mark IV and 2 vehicles were destroyed; 7 houses

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used as strong points were fired on with HE, direct fire; and a number of Germans dug-in in the woods at P-565843 were killed with .50 calibre machine gun and 3 inch direct fire. In repelling the enemy counter-attack, Company G destroyed a Mark IV and 2 Mark Vs, damaging 2 other Mark Vs, and were given credit by supported infantry for knocking out an additional 2 Mark IVs. Casualties were also inflicted on attacking enemy infantry and several German machine gun nests were knocked out. During the period 5 M-10s were knocked out by enemy action.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 62.

12 JANUARY 1945

Left flank infantry attacked continuously throughout the period, captured PETITE-LANGLIR (P-5783) and LANGLIR (P-5582), and secured a bridgehead over the RONCE River. Armored reconnaissance units crossed LANGLIR River advancing about 3 kilometers to seize and clear the road through BOIS DE CEDROGNE, while armored elements on the right flank advanced up to 2 kilometers against varying resistance, seizing PETITES TAILLES (P-5983).

Resistance on the Corps front continued to be strong, particularly on the left flank, and evidence was lacking that a large scale "side stepping" was taking place, since the 2nd and 9th SS Panzer, 116th Panzer, and 560th, 12th and 326th Volksgrenadier Divisions fought stubbornly in the same general area in which they all had operated the previous period. Enemy artillery, mortar and nebelwerfer fire was very heavy. Intense artillery fire was used against our operations in the PETITE-LANGLIR and LANGLIR areas. Our armored elements received direct anti-tank fire southwest of BIHAIN (vicinity of P-616835) and southwest of LANGLIR (vicinity of P-660827). Enemy tanks supporting infantry delayed our advance to the south in the vicinity of P-620816, east of PISSEROTTE (P-6181). Late in the afternoon ten enemy tanks shelled LANGLIR from defiladed positions in the vicinity of P-639821.

The weather although still freezing was somewhat warmer than the past two days with visibility very ppor due to ground fog which prevented any fighter-bomber support for ground troops. At 1600 the Corps CP closed in BOMAL (P-4299) and opened at the same hour in LIERNEUX (P-6188).

84th Infantry Division (less 333rd Infantry with 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, attached): Elements of 334th Infantry conducted reconnaissance in force, reaching P-522800 with only light resistance before returning to original positions. Cavalry advanced 1000-1500 yards. Other units regrouped.

2nd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Good progress was made by Combat Command Collier on the right of the Division, where resistance was somewhat lighter than in the zone of Combat Command White, especially after the 2nd Battalion, 1129th Volksgrenadier Regiment (560th Volksgrenadier Division) was captured in the vicinity of P-550815. PETITES TAILLES (P-5983) was captured.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion passed through 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, crossed LANGLIR River, advanced about 3 kilometers, seizing and clearing the road through BOIS DE CEDROGNE.

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12 January SECRET

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Continued the attack of 2200, 11 January, cleared PETITE-LANGLIR (P-6583) and LANGLIR (P-6582), and secured a bridgehead over the RONCE-LANGLIR River.

84th Infantry Division

Elements of the 4th Cavalry Group conducted reconnaissance in force to the southeast, engaging enemy pockets of resistance in their zone advancing up to 1500 yards and consolidating positions at nightfall. The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron began movement at 0900, initially meeting no resistance. Contact was established with enemy elements at approximately 1300 hours in the vicinity of P-472782 and P-480798. These positions were attacked by Troops A, B, and C, and approximately two companies of enemy infantry were found to be dug-in between the two points of contact. At the close of the period the portion of LAROCHE (P-4577) east of the CURTHE and VILLEZ (P-4777) were occupied, and the enemy contained in his positions

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron likewise met no initial resistance. At 1300 elements of Troops B and C converged upon the town of BORZEE (P-4978) and found it strongly defended by an estimated battalion of infantry supported by a tank and some half-track vehicles. The two companies attacked, nevertheless, and later reinforced by Troop A entered the town and captured 33 prisoners. Due to the exposed east flank and increased artillery and small arms fire from within the town, our elements withdrew north to positions in the vicinity of LES GRANDS QUARTIERS (P-4979). There were no changes among other units of the Group.

At 0830 the 84th Reconnaissance Troop passed through the lines held by the 3rd Battalion, 334th Infantry, and patrolled to the southeast. An enemy pocket consisting of tank-infantry was discovered in the vicinity of P-517807, and the Troop withdrew from action at 1500, returning to positions in the vicinity of P-443902.

The 1st Battalion, 335th Infantry remained in the vicinity of BARVAUX (P-4096), resting and reorganizing. At 1500 the 3rd Battalion completed its move from BARVAUX to DEVANTAVE (P-4484), while the 2nd Battalion remained in DOCHAMPS (P-4983). The 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry moved from CIELLE (P-4479) to SAMREE (P-5081), closing at 0745, prepared to move to BERISVENIL (P-5277). The 3rd Battalion maintained positions and sent strong patrols to its front. The 2nd Battalion remained in assembly in BIRON (P-3992).

2nd Armored Division

Elements of Combat Command Collier attacked at 0730. Task Force A met resistance from enemy infantry and self-propelled guns, but managed to clear the woods to both flanks in its zone and reached P-563804. The Task Force was held up at this point to prevent overextending. Patrols penetrated to P-562795 without making contact with the enemy.

The reinforced 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion met strong resistance from the vicinity of FERME DE ST. JEAN (P-5481) consisting of a battalion of infantry supported by anti-tank guns. This strong point was reduced, the enemy commanding officer and entire staff captured intact and many prisoners taken, including practically the whole 2nd Battalion, 1129th Volksgrenadier Regiment, 560th Volksgrenadier Division. Patrols then moved into the woods and encountered enemy infantry in force. Additional prisoners were taken.

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Combat Command White moved out at 0830 but could not employ the tanks of Task Force Y until after road blocks preventing their departure from the woods were reduced at 1300. Infantry was pinned down at the edge of the woods by small arms, mortar and artillery fire from LES TAILLES (P-5882) and PETITES-TAILLES(P-5983). Heavy fighting centered around both towns all day. Elements outflanked PETITES TAILLES by going into the 3rd Armored Division zone and attacking to the west. This force made contact with two companies of infantry in the western edge of the town at 2200. At the close of the period fighting was still in progress with our forces controlling all but the southern fringe of the town. Other elements of Task Force Y secured LES TAILLES at 1800 hours and advanced to P-577819. Resistance was stiff through the day and the attack was hampered by poor traffic conditions which resulted in tanks bogging in marshy terrain and sliding on iced roads.

3rd Armored Division

Upon being passed through by the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, Task Force Hogan was ordered to assemble in BIHAIN (P-6384). At 1335 a combat patrol was sent to the high ground southwest of BIHAIN with the mission of securing this commanding position and continuing on to the town of PISSEROTTE (P-6081) to establish contact with elements of the 2nd Armored Division. This patrol, consisting of a platoon of tanks and one of infantry, encountered dug-in infantry and heavy small arms fire was received, but by 1950 the high ground at P-611829 was secured and operations for the night halted. During the day the forces of Combat Command Howze regrouped preparatory to resuming the attack and at the close of the period Task Forces Hogan and Kane were at BIHAIN and VERLEUMONT (P-6287).

The 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion advanced at 0800 with a platoon of tank destroyers attached, and proceeded south with the mission of clearing the woods (BOIS DE CEDROGNE) along the west boundary of the Division and cutting the road running west from MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478), and protecting the right flank of Combat Command Boudinot. By 0910 elements were passing through Task Force Hogan. Movement was slow due to knocked-out enemy vehicles which blocked the road south of BIHAIN. Resistance was stubborn throughout and artillery, mortar and rocket fire was heavy while dug-in infantry and tanks put up a stubborn fight. At the end of the period the Reconnaissance Battalion had accomplished its mission and held road blocks at P-621816 and P-625814 with other units deployed at P-628796 - P-634796, astride MONTLE BAN River.

At 1000 Combat Command Boudinot moved to PETITE-LANGLIR (P-6583) and LANG-LIR (P-6582) following closely behind the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion and assembled preparatory to resuming offensive. The move was held up by a blown bridge and heavy artillery fire. Task Force X, Combat Command Hickey, was relieved by elements of 75th Infantry Division which assumed the responsibility for positions in FROVEDROUX (P-6885). By 1230 the Task Force had moved to SART (P-6587).

A temporary boundary between the 83rd Division and 3rd Armored Division was set as follows effective 1200: point above BIHAIN (P-627843), south to P-630835 to P-635806.

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12 January SECRET

83rd Infantry Division

At the start of the period the 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, was still holding the lines P-628833 - P-634822. Company F advanced against sniper-propelled and machine gun fire from the vicinity of P-637820 to extend the line to the southeast to P-637818. At 1300 the Battalion attacked southeast to take objective high ground in LA VIEILLE TAILLE (P-640806). At the close of the period the Battalion had reached P-636814. The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, continued the fight against the enemy for LANGLIR (P-6582) during the morning. The Germans fought stubbornly to hold the town, employing tanks and artillery in addition to infantry, but by 1100 the 1st Battalion had advanced to the edge of the town. The attackers encountered heavy shelling and machine gun fire from ten enemy supporting tanks in the vicinity of P-640820. At approximately 1400 the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, relieved the 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, and the latter attacked to the south, reaching its objective high ground east of Stream in LA VIEILLE TAILLE at P-647803.

The 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, entered PETITE-LANGLIR at the start of the period against heavy resistance from machine gun, artillery and tank fire. During the morning mopping up operations were carried out and at 1400 the Battalion reorganized and attacked to the southeast with the mission of seizing the high ground at P-660810. By the close of the period the lines P-654815 - P-656817 had been reached.

LANGLIR was attacked by the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, very early in the morning from the east against typically stubborn opposition, including heavy artillery, machine gun and small arms fire. Companies E and G succeeded in entering the town followed by Company F. Mopping up operations were carried out and at about 1400 hours the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, relieved the 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, of positions in the western part of LANGLIR. Defensive positions were organized and the town secured. Meanwhile the 3rd Battalion, 320th Infantry, which continued the attack against PETITE-LANGLIR during the early part of the period succeeded in entering the town and during the afternoon the defenders were subjected to mopping up operations. Enemy machine gun tank fire from the vicinity of the cut in the road at P-654837 was very heavy. The town was finally cleared and the 3rd Battalion remained there to organize defenses.

After holding blocking positions to the south and east on the lines P-664828 - P-667838 - P-670836 - P-670845 during the morning, Company C, 329th Infantry advanced to the vicinity of road block at P-671823 and remained there the rest of the period. Other units of the 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry, continued their blocking mission.

The results of these operations secured both LANGLIR and PETITE-LANGLIR and firmly established a bridgehead over the LANGLIR River. A blocking line to east from P-664814 to P-672845 was held and the clearing of the following routes initiated: LANGLIR to P-661809, the road south to CHERAIN (P-6677); LANGLIR to P-647806, the road south to LOMRE (P-6479); RUHAIN (P-6284), south through to LA VIEILLE TAILLE (P-6480). Nearly 300 prisoners were taken while the Division operated at 1600 troops below strength due to casualties caused by the enemy and the weather.

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Artillery

2nd Armored Division: Fired 152 missions as follows: 28 preparation, 36 personnel, 4 mortar and machine gun, 4 close support, 1 counterbattery, 13 tank, 58 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6097.

3rd Armored Division: Fired 96 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 14 personnel, 14 close support, 2 counterbattery, 6 tank, 51 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2783.

83rd Division: Fired 110 missions as follows: 5 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 4 close support, 2 counterbattery, 1 tank, 60 interdiction and harassing, and 37 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2161.

84th Division: Fired 351 missions as follows: 6 preparation, 11 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 2 close support, 9 tank, 309 interdiction and harassing, and 12 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3651.

Corps: Fired 137 missions as follows: 12 preparation, 9 personnel, 6 close support, 34 counterbattery, 7 tank, 62 interdiction and harassing, and 7 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3500.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 629th TD Bn fired 23 rounds of 3" HE and 4 rounds of 3" AP direct fire on a suspected enemy tank area. The 702nd TD Bn fired 30 rounds of 90mm HE and 29 rounds of 90mm APC direct fire. Results unknown.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 616.

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13 JANUARY 1945

All divisions of the Corps attacked and all made good progress to the southeast. The enemy's main withdrawal and supply route, between HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) and ST. VITH (P-8588) was cut, over 500 prisoners captured, and the following towns secured: Eastern part of LAROCHE (P-4577), MABOGE (P-4976), BORZEE (P-4978), BERISMENIL (P-5277), PISSEROTTE (P-6081), and LOMRE (P-6479). Commanding ground was held from which important roads could be interdicted, and road blocks were established at key road junctions.

In spite of these appreciable gains made by our forces during the day the enemy offered very stubborn resistance and was forced backward only when his positions became untenable. The success of the day's operations was due to the Corps' increased offensive pressure rather than a decline in the German's defensive pressure.

The night (12/13 January) attack of the 83rd Infantry Division that had gained a bridgehead over the LANGLIR River caused considerable confusion among the enemy and enabled our reconnaissance units to advance to within 4000 yards of the Corps objective--HOUFFALIZE.

Along the Corps front the enemy resisted our advance with unusual stubbornness, utilizing the terrain to great advantage. Many road blocks and mines were encountered as the Germans dug-in for defensive combat. Enemy artillery and mortar fire remained heavy throughout the day, particularly on the east (left) flank of the Corps held by infantry. Armored units encountered single enemy tanks and self-propelled guns covering main cross roads and avenues of approach. Heavy nebelwerfer fire was also reported. In addition to all the German divisions with whom the Corps had contact during the past several days being identified again, it was learned that reinforcements had been supplied to the faltering 12th Volksgrenadier Division from the 59th, 363rd and 183rd Volkesgrenadier Divisions, then committed on Ninth U.S. Army front in Germany.

Although the weather allowed only 4 hours of flying (1200 to 1600) fighter bombers of the IX Tactical Air Force flew 75 sorties and dropped 35.75 tons of bombs, plus 20 rocket projectiles and 2-165 gallon fire bombs on targets of opportunity. Visibility was not good and in only some cases were results observed. Only 8 missions were flown in support of ground troops in the pocket area--HOUFFALIZE - ST. VITH (P-8588).

84th Infantry Division (less 333rd Infantry, with 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, attached): Attacked with two Infantry Regiments and Cavalry, securing LAROCHE (east of river)(P-4577), MABOGE (P-4979), BORZEE (P-4978), and BERISMENIL (P-5277). Cavalry patrolled along L'OURTHE River between LAROCHE and MABOGE.

2nd Armored Division (333rd Infantry, attached): Combat Command Collier advanced south to approximately the 78th latitudinal grid line in the BOIS D'ACHOUFFE; PISSEROTTE (P-6081) was seized by Combat Command White with Task Forces advancing south and west of the town.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Advanced to AUTILLEUL (P-6679) and the high-ground east of the village; seized LOMRE (P-6479), cut road east of MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478), established a road block at P-6[illegible] to cut the enemy's main withdrawal and supply route between HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) and ST. VITH

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(P-8538). Enemy in MONT-LE-BAN were contained and road blocks erected at P-631781 and P-634779.

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Continuing the attack begun 2200, 11 January, and after fighting continuously for 36 hours had firmly established a bridgehead over LANGLIR-MONCE River, and LD along edge of BOIS ST. PIERRE-NEZ for 3d Armored Division attack. Mopped up and after being passed through, regrouped in preparation for renewing the attack 14 January.

84th Infantry Division

The division attacked to successively seize BERISMENIL (P-5277), NADRIN (P-5375) and FILLY (P-5473). BOQUEE (P-4978), which the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron found heavily defended the previous day, was entered by Troop A, reinforced, at 1500 with 5 prisoners being captured and 7 Germans killed. The attack was continued to the south and at the close of the period Troops A and C, 24th Cavalry Squadron were abreast along the road in the vicinity of GROS THIERS (P-4977). Contact was established with the 4th Cavalry and elements of the 335th Infantry to the left.

Meanwhile the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron had advanced to the south with strong patrols reconnoitering the enemy positions reported the previous day. It was found that the Germans had withdrawn during the night and patrols were extended to MABOGE (P-4976) and the high ground in the vicinity of P-490777. MABOGE was undefended except for two prisoners captured there. The bridge at P-492764 was reported blown, but able to be spanned with one section of treadway. At the close of the period elements of Troop A occupied MABOGE, Troop C held a strong point on the high ground at P-490777, LAROCHE (P-4577) and VILLEE (P-4777) were secured by elements of Troop A and Troop B, while Troop E occupied MARCOUPAY (P-4381) and Troop F, CIELLE (P-4479). L'OURTHE River was patrolled from LAROCHE to MABOGE.

The 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, passed through the 3rd Battalion, 334th Infantry, attacked south at 0730 and seized BERISMENIL (P-5277) against stubborn enemy delaying forces in the town. The 1st Battalion continued as Regimental Reserve and moved to the vicinity of DOCHAMPS (P-4983), then marched to SAMREE (P-5081). The 3rd Battalion remained in DEVANTAVE (P-4484).

At 1430, the 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry, advanced to the east of the 3d Battalion and seized the high ground in the vicinity of P-5477. The 3d Battalion remained in positions on the Regimental right flank initially but at 1015 attacked and advanced to P-527779. After moving to the vicinity of SAMREE, the 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, was moved by motor under the cover of darkness to the vicinity of HUBOM (P-3992), closing there at 2215.

2nd Armored Division

The division renewed the attack toward HOUFFALIZE (P-6171) with the day's objective, the capture of CR (P-600813) from the direction of LE FOND (P-5782). Task Force B of Combat Command Collier passed through the lines of the 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion and attacked at 0830 hours, advancing in two columns to P-550779 and P-557790 at the end of the period. A strong point of

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enemy infantry at P-577790 was passed and contained with mopping up continuing at the close of the period. Tenacious resistance was encountered in the vicinity of P-5578 from dug-in enemy infantry supported by nebelwerfer and mortar fire. The terrain, however, was the main obstacle to the advance. Task Force A also employed two columns and advanced to P-557782 - P-575780 by the close of the day. Progress was slowed and limited by the difficult terrain, poor condition of trails and the snow. The enemy conducted a rear guard withdrawal, heavily mining and physically blocking trails. The 82nd Reconnaissance Battalion assembled in the vicinity of P-523827 for rest and rehabilitation.

In the zone of Combat Command White, Task Force X attacked at 0800 hours and advanced against stiff rear guard action of enemy infantry supported by artillery, morter and nebelwerfer fire. Defensive road blocks were supported by anti-tank and self-propelled assault guns and a few tanks. Roads and trails were heavily mined. At 2115, PISSEROTTE (P-6081) was secured and adjacent units contacted. Infantry elements of Task Force X reached P-602914 and secured the cross roads at P-600818. Task Force Y attacked at 0800, advancing through the heavily wooded area defended by dug-in infantry supported by moderate artillery and nebelwerfer fire. Advanced elements reached the vicinity of P-594804 - P-585794. The 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, remained in the vicinity of P-595817 under Combat Command White's control.

3rd Armored Division

Resuming the attack to seize road centers in the vicinity of CHERAIN (P-6677), the 3rd Armored Division's units passed through the 83rd Infantry Division and made good progress during the day capturing the town of LOMRE (P-6479) and cutting the CHERAIN-SOMMERAINE (P-6275) road by establishing a road block at P-639761.

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion (Task Force Yeomans) of Combat Command Howze (Reserve) attacked on the right flank of the division at 0800 when the division offensive was launched and advanced against moderate resistance throughout the day. At 1700 two companies had secured the high ground in the vicinity of P-625762. The remainder of this force continued the advance to cut the CHERAIN-SOMMERAINE road at P-639761, about 4 kilometers east of its junction with the main HOUFFALIZE (P-6171) - LIEGE (K-4729) Highway. By the close of the period this road block was securely held by tanks and infantry.

To the left of the Reconnaissance Battalion, Task Force Kane passed through elements of the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion in the vicinity of P-630795. The advance proceeded slowly due to terrain difficulties. The trail from the line of departure to MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478) required constant engineer work to permit movement of the column. On reaching the northwest of MONT-LE-BAN, heavy resistance was encountered; this resistance consisted of tank and anti-tank fire from the town and heavy artillery and mortar fire. At 1610, a force consisting of a medium tank company and a company of infantry were left in position to contain the enemy in the town and the remainder of Task Force Kane by-passed MONT-LE-BAN to the west. Road blocks were established at P-631781 and P-634779 and the rest of the Task Force joined the 83rd Reconnaissance Battalion in the defense of the road block at P-639761

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Task Force Rogers remained in [illegible] (P-0824) and at 0800 sent patrols to contact elements of the 2nd Armored Division in [illegible] (P-[illegible]). This patrol reached a point 500 yards north of P-[illegible] where it received fire from the town and withdrew. Patrols were sent [illegible] to the town at 2200 hours after it had been captured by the 2nd Armored Division but no contact [illegible] with elements of that Division by the close of the period.

In the zone of Combat Command "Reserve", Task Force Lovelady attacked and advanced against tank, mortar and artillery fire. At 1[illegible]5 the advance was stopped at P-648815 while infantry was sent to locate enemy tanks in the vicinity of P-6[illegible]13. The advance continued to P-[illegible] where it was halted by [illegible] field and booby trapped felled trees. After removing these obstacles, Task Force Lovelady progressed to the northern edge of [illegible] (P-[illegible]) where strong enemy resistance was met. At 1715 hours a coordinated attack against the town was launched and at 2200 [illegible] was secured, secured and road block established by an infantry company at P-651791.

Infantry elements of Task Force Walker (formerly Elbrn) attacked at 0[illegible] hour., followed by armored units at 0800. The infantry attacked two hours in advance of armored elements [illegible] the purpose of securing the high ground in the vicinity of P-671801. At 1600 hours this mission had been accomplished, and tanks had reached the stream at P-[illegible] where the bridge was found to be destroyed. Bridging equipment was brought up to span the stream while infantry pushed on establishing a bridgehead. At the close of the period the bridgehead had been established and Task Force Walker had reached positions at P-[illegible]. Moderate to heavy mortar and artillery fire were received throughout the day, and some tank fire was encountered.

Combat Command "Hickey" did not attack during the day. At 1045 hours, Task Force Richardson was relieved of its sector (P-[illegible] - P-[illegible]) by elements of the 83rd Division and movement to a new assembly area was begun. At 1[illegible] Task Force Richardson closed in the vicinity of [illegible] (P-[illegible]). [illegible] remained in assembly at CLAY (P-[illegible]) performing [illegible] reconnaissance and maintenance. Throughout the period continuous patrols were maintained [illegible] - HETTE (P-6[illegible]) - [illegible] (P-[illegible]) - [illegible] (P-[illegible]) area.

83rd Infantry Division

During the morning the division continued its previous attack to secure a line of departure for 3rd Armored Division. The 1st Battalion, [illegible] Infantry, on the right was attacking south from P-630814 in a column of companies with Company E leading at the start of the period. They advanced slowly [illegible] infantry and dug-in tanks in the vicinity of P-[illegible] and reached the objective high ground in the clearing just south of LA VIEILLE [illegible] at P-[illegible] by 0[illegible] hours. Enemy tanks by-passed at night infiltrated between elements of Company A at approximately 1300 hours. Supporting tanks moved forward and knocked out one [illegible] while one of our tanks was lost. Defensive positions were maintained until [illegible] hours at which time units moved to assembly areas as follows: Company F, [illegible] (P-6284), and Companies E and G, CLAY (P-6485).

At the start of the period the 1st Battalion, [illegible] Infantry was attacking south from LANGLIN (P-6582) toward the objective, P-[illegible], against heavy resistance from enemy tanks and infantry. Progress was slow due to [illegible] resistance

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and moving through the woods at night. Company B reached the forward slope of the objective at 0700. The Battalion maintained defensive positions under heavy artillery fire in the vicinity of the objective until 2130 when it moved to LANGLIR.

Meanwhile, the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry on the left of the Regimental zone maintained defensive positions on the high ground in the BOIS DIT ST. PIERRE-HEZ at P-660810, although subjected to very heavy enemy artillery fire. At 1700 the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, began displacing to the northeast to relieve elements of the 329th Infantry. At the close of the period the Battalion held the line: P-664833 - P-668818 - P-665824.

In the zone of the 329th Infantry which held the left flank of the Division, the 2nd Battalion's Company F continued towards its objective (blocking positions, southeast of LANGLIR in the vicinity of P-665814) as the period opened. En route contact was made with the enemy and in the fire fight that ensued about 50 Germans were taken prisoner. Company F reached its objective at 0545 and remained in position there until relieved by Company I, 331st Infantry, at approximately 1830 hours. At that time Company F moved to LANGLIR and rejoined the remainder of the 2nd Battalion, except Company C which had relieved Company I, 329th Infantry, on the line: P-670839 - P-670845 at about 1800.

The blocking line: P-664828 - P-667836 - P-670836 - P-670845 was held by the 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry, during the period and patrols were active to the front and east. At approximately 1530, Company A was relieved by Company I, 329th Infantry, and moved to an assembly area west of Company C in the vicinity of P-666826. The Battalion maintained defensive positions on the line: P-671823 - P-673837 at the close of the period. The 3rd Battalion of this regiment remained in reserve in PETITE-LANGLIR (P-6583). Company I, which relieved Company A, 331st Infantry, at 1530, was in turn relieved by Company G, 329th Infantry at 1900 and returned to LANGLIR.

After having secured and held the line of departure for the 3rd Armored Division's attack, the Division regrouped and made preparations to displace east from the edge of BOIS ST. PIERRE-HEZ and secure the ridge line northwest of BOVIGNY (P-7083) with the main line of resistance generally along the eastern edge of BOIS DE HONET.

Artillery

2nd Armd Div: Fired 147 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 34 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 7 close support, 3 counterbattery, 21 tank, 44 interdiction and harassing, and 35 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1,[illegible].

3rd Armd Div: Fired 129 missions as follows: 25 preparation, 34 personnel, 19 close support, 5 counterbattery, 7 tank, 101 interdiction and harassing, and 34 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 6,902.

83rd Div: Fired 105 missions as follows: 3 personnel, 4 close support, 75 interdiction and harassing, and 23 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2,[illegible].

94th Div: Fired 104 missions as follows: 6 preparation, 5 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 7 close support, 4 tank, 77 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2,[illegible].

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Corps: Fired 159 missions as follows: 21 preparation, 6 personnel, 8 close support, 2 counterbattery, 6 tank, 108 interdiction and harassing, and 8 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3486.

A 14th Armd FA Bn (2nd Armd Div) AOP spotted 12 enemy tanks and adjusted his battalion on them. A total of 121 rounds were fired, and the observer reported six tanks definitely knocked out. A British Air OP (5th Army Group Royal Artillery) spotted enemy tanks in the 84th Inf Div Zone of action. The 84th Div Arty, 3 British Regts, and the 951st FA Bn (155 H) of Corps Arty fired 3 TOT's on the tanks. The AOP executed surveillance and reported the area well covered.

At 1215, the 188th FA Bn (155 H) fired its 58,000th round since going into action on 11 June.

Anti-aircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 629th TD Bn fired 10 rounds of 3" APC, 11 rounds of 3" HE, 5 HVAP (high velocity armor piercing) direct fire. During the past 3 days the following enemy equipment was destroyed and not previously reported: 1 Mark IV tank, 1 Mark VI, 1 self-propelled gun, 1 general purpose vehicle, and 2 anti-tank guns. The 702nd TD Bn fired 34 rounds of 90mm HE and 4 rounds of 90mm APC direct fire, knocking out a self-propelled gun.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 536.

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SECRET

14 January

VII Corps continued the drive to the south and east, narrowing the pocket between the First and Third U.S. Armies still further as 13 more towns were cleared of the enemy and patrols from the two Armies made contact. Right flank infantry completed the capture of NADRIN (P-5375), OLLOMONT (P-5375), FILLY (P-5473), PETITE MORMONT (P-5573) and GRAND MORMONT (P-5573) while armored units drove south 4-5 kilometers in the right half of the Corps zone to seize WIBRIN (P-5575), WILOGNE (P-5976) and DINEZ (P-6076). On the left of the Corps front, infantry advanced through the BOIS DE RONCY to the vicinity of BOVIGNY (P-7082), occupying HONYELEZ (P-7083), and armored elements captured MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478), HALONREUX (P-6478), BACLAIN (P-6679) and were fighting in CHERIAN (P-6677) at the close of the period.

On the Corps right flank patrol contact was made with the VIII Corps of Third US Army south of LAROCHE (P-4577) at 1845 hours. Throughout the day the enemy put up a stubborn fight before being forced to yield NADRIN, OLLOMONT FILLY, PETITE MORMONT and GRAND MORMONT to the 84th Infantry Division. By late evening, after being delayed initially by difficult terrain, anti-tank fire and mines, forces of the 2nd Armored Division had taken WIBRIN, WILOGNE and DINEZ.

Columns of the 3rd Armored Division moved to the south from LOMRE (P-6479) and encountered heavy anti-tank fire and dense minefields north of BACLAIN and also north of MONT-LE-BAN. Toward nightfall the Division cleared the former town and were fighting for CHERAIN. Further to the east, the 83rd Infantry Division was engaged in what might well be described as "Indian fighting" in the BOIS DE RONCY, where mines and small pockets of enemy infantry employing machine gun and small arms fire were encountered. Although the enemy's defenses stiffened and very severe fighting occurred, our forces made progress, advancing through the woods to the vicinity of the objective, BOVIGNY.

The enemy's order of battle continued to reveal a formidable array of units on the Corps front as elements of four Panzer divisions and two Volksgrenadier divisions were identified from the same 300 prisoners taken during the period. On the right flank the wavering line held by elements of the 116th Panzer, 2nd SS Panzer and 560th Volksgrenadier Divisions was strengthened by the appearance of elements of the 130th Panzer Lehr Division. The 9th SS Panzer Division was reidentified generally on the left center of the Corps zone. Resistance on the left flank was bolstered by the recommitment of the 89th Regiment of 12th Volksgrenadier Division.

Fighter-bombers from the 366th Group (IX Tactical Air Force) provided close support for the 2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions with good results as the weather continued below freezing. Visibility was excellent. The 366th Group flew 13 missions of 4 aircraft each for our armored units, and armed reconnaissance missions in the ST VITH (P-8588) - HOUFFALIZE (P-6171) area. A string of 8 railroad cars at P-727785 was attacked, a considerable amount of enemy motor transportation bombed with claims of 30 destroyed and 32 damaged, and 4 armored vehicles knocked out. Two roads were cut and the towns of MONT-LE-BAN and BACLAIN bombed twice.

84th Infantry Division (less 333rd Infantry, with 4th Cavalry Group, reinforced, attached): Completed mopping up BERISMENIL (P-5277) and completed its mission with the capture of NADRIN (P-5375), OLLOMONT (P-5375), FILLY (P-5473), PETITE MORMONT (P-5573) and GRAND MORMONT (P-5573). Cavalry elements continued to patrol along L'OURTHE River and late in the period made contact with another

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patrol from the 507th Parachute Infantry (VIII Corps) south of LAROCHE (P-4577).

2nd Armored Division (333rd Infantry, attached): Renewed the attack at 0800. Initially progress was slow, but later 6 of 12 enemy tanks were knocked out, and the towns of WIBRIN (P-5575), WILOGNE (P-5976) and DINEZ (P-6076) captured as units advanced 4 to 5 kilometers.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Cleared MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478), HALONREUX (P-6478) and BACLAIN (P-6679), and at the end of the period were engaged with the enemy in a fight for CHERAIN (P-6677), the Division objective.

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Advanced through the BOIS DE ROUCY cleaning up pockets of enemy and reached the high ground on the edge of the woods overlooking BOVIGNY (P-7082). HONYELEZ (P-7083) was seized and secured.

84th Infantry Division

The 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, continued the attack at 0730 hours, cleared BERISMENIL (P-5277), advanced to the southeast and seized OLLOMONT (P-5375), then assembled in BERISMENIL, closing there at 2140. The 1st and 3rd Battalions of this Regiment remained in SAMREE (P-5081) and DEVANTAVE (P-4484), respectively.

At 0930, the 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry, attacked MADRIN (P-5375) which was seized and positions consolidated. No initial resistance was met but at the approach to the village enemy machine gun, small arms, and considerable artillery fire was encountered. The 3rd Battalion of this Regiment attacked at 0730 and continued on to assault the town of FILLY (P-5473) which was captured, followed by the seizure of PETITE-MORMONT and GRAND-MORMONT (P-5573). In each of these towns considerable enemy opposition was encountered including machine gun, small arms and artillery fire, except PETITE-MORMONT which the enemy did not defend. The 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, remained in the vicinity of BIRON (P-3992) resting, reorganizing, and maintaining equipment.

The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron patrolled the line of L'OURTHE River on the Corps right flank, and late in the period made patrol contact with elements of the VII Corps (patrols from 507th Parachute Infantry) south of LAROCHE (P-4577), behind the British lines. At the close of the period elements were in BORZEE (P-4978), BERISMENIL (P-5277), and MABOGE (P-4976). The road between MABOGE and CIEILE (P-4479) was patrolled by the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, and after finding no enemy, they assembled in the CIEILE-LAROCHE area.

2nd Armored Division

Combat Command Collier attacked at 0830 on the right of the Division zone with Task Force B on the right flank advancing through the woods (BOIS DE ST. JEAN) and fighting against dug-in tanks protected by infantry. Considerable anti-tank fire was also received as the Task Force made slow progress over the hilly terrain north of WIBRIN (P-5575). This town was seized, and Task Force B continued to secure positions along the high ground to the southwest from P-551752 to P-557755. Initial progress of Task Force A on the left of Task Force B was slowed by bridge construction at P-563777. Later after leaving the wooded area the Task Force engaged 12 tanks and destroyed 6. Task Force A advanced to positions along the line: P-562756 - P-566758 - P-568766 - P-575768.

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On the left of the Division, Combat Command White attacked at 0800. Task Force X secured both MILOGNE (P-5976) and DINEZ (P-6076). Approximately 100 prisoners were taken in the former place and both these towns were occupied at the end of the period. Task Force X advanced approximately 2000 yards initially without enemy opposition and then continued to gain 3000 yards more to the south against stiffening resistance. Final positions were secured at P-600773 - P-607777.

3rd Armored Division

Task Force Yoemans (83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, reinforced) on the right of Combat Command Howze (Reserve), attacked from road block at P-639761 at 1040 hours to seize the town of VAUX (P-6576). After an advance of 700 to 800 yards the Battalion was forced to pull back to the vicinity of the road block due to excessive enemy artillery and mortar fire. The Reconnaissance Battalion was ordered to remain in position and secure this road block and at 1800 reverted to Division control with the mission of establishing a road block at P-644752. At the close of the period they were attacking to secure this position and were in the vicinity of P-638763.

Elements of Task Force Kane remained north of MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478) during the morning waiting for Task Force Hogan to join in a coordinated attack on MONT-LE-BAN. The combined task forces started the attack on the town at 1340 and by 1500 had secured the village. Elements of Task Force Kane attacked from the north and Task Force Hogan from the west. Fighter-bombers supported the attack. After clearing the town Task Force Kane continued to secure it until relieved by Task Force Miller of Combat Command Hickey at 2035. Task Force Kane then assembled in the vicinity of MONT-LE-BAN. Task Force Hogan assembled and at 2400 launched an attack on VAUX.

In the zone of Combat Command Boudinot both Task Forces Lovelady and Walker attacked to seize the objective, CHERAIN (P-6677). Task Force Lovelady advanced south at 0800 from LOMRE (P-6479) and encountered 9 enemy tanks just south of the town. After eliminating this resistance, MONT-LE-BAN was by-passed to the east, and the advance continued toward the objective against stubborn resistance, consisting of anti-tank, tank, and artillery fire. At the close of the period Task Force Lovelady was fighting in the northern part of the town.

Task Force Walker attacked at 0755 and immediately ran into a minefield defended by small arms, anti-tank and artillery fire. This fire on the minefield was reduced, and engineer elements cleared a path through the field, which enabled the Task Force to resume the advance by 1430 hours. Very still opposition was encountered in attempting to enter CHERAIN (P-6679). Fighter-bombers attacked the town twice and a coordinated attack of two elements of the Task Force, one attacking from P-662794 and the other from P-665795, was launched to seize the town. By 2000 this operation had been successfully accomplished and Task Force Walker continued to secure the town at the close of the period.

At 0840, Task Force Miller of Combat Command Hickey relieved Task Force Hogan in BIHAIN (P-6284), and assumed responsibility for the security of the town. Later Task Force Miller moved up to secure MONT-LE-BAN, relieving Task Force Kane. Other elements of Combat Command Hickey were not engaged but maintained contact with the 2nd Armored Division on the right and 329th Infantry on the left, protected the Division rear and secured the right flank by establishing road blocks at P-610617, P-611628, P-640615, P-640617, in accordance with orders of the

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Commanding General, 3rd Armored Division. Elements of Task Force Doan remained in DARF (P-6587) with Task Force Richardson at P-655809.

83d Infantry Division

The 83rd Division was assigned the mission of securing the high ground northwest of BOVIGNY (P-7082) with the main line resistance generally along the eastern edge of the BOIS DE BONCE. At 1000 hours the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry attacked to the east within its zone. An enemy strong point centered around a high velocity gun in the vicinity of P-688803 was forced to withdraw by the flanking action of one infantry company from the south. By 1730 the 3rd Battalion had secured its objective and maintained defensive positions along the line: P-685807 - P-688803 - P-688810.

In advancing to the east from LANGLIR (P-6582), the 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, knocked out a German strong point in the vicinity of P-686820 which consisted of approximately 50 enemy. The attack was made in a column of companies with Company B leading. Several enemy were killed and 20 taken prisoner. The 1st Battalion occupied its objective on the line: P-687813 - P-688817 - P-689822 by approximately 1630 hours, and at the close of the period patrols advanced to the east toward COURTHIL (P-7081). The 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, remained in Regimental reserve in the town of LANGLIR.

On the left flank, the 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry, attacked east through the BOIS DE BONCE at 1000. Numerous islands of resistance, consisting of from 3 to 5 enemy infantry with automatic weapons were encountered, and the advance was slow. Light tanks were unable to be brought forward due to weather and terrain. The objective high ground northwest of BOVIGNY was secured at 1630. At 2130, Company B entered COURTHIL (P-7083), without opposition. Company A held a reserve position in the vicinity of P-684825 and Company C patroled east to BOVIGNY. The 2nd Battalion attacked east through the woods and encountered similar resistance to the 1st Battalion on its right. Company G moved south and crossed BONCE River and at 2130 entered COURTHIL with Company E. Company F held positions in the vicinity of P-673844 and Company H, P-691839. The 3rd Battalion, 329th Infantry, remained in reserve in PETITE-LANGLIR (P-6585).

Artillery

2nd Armd Div: Fired 67 missions as follows: 7 preparation, 26 personnel, 4 close support, 3 counterbattery, 7 tank, 7 interdiction and harassing, and 33 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3109.

3rd Armd Div: Fired 245 missions as follows: 35 preparation, 54 personnel, 27 close support, 4 tank, 108 interdiction and harassing, and 17 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 9550.

83rd Inf Div: Fired 136 missions as follows: 1 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 15 close support, 1 tank, 71 interdiction and harassing, and 44 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2183.

84th Inf Div: Fired 52 missions as follows: 4 preparation, 2 personnel, 7 mortar and machine gun, 6 tank, 29 interdiction and harassing, and 4 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1213.

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Corps: Fired 196 missions as follows: 31 preparation, 6 personnel, 15 counterbattery, 3 tank, 122 interdiction and harassing, and 19 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3343.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 702nd TD Bn fired 27 rounds of 90mm HE and 34 rounds of 90mm HE direct fire, destroying a Mark V and a Mark IV tank. The 703rd TD Bn fired 27 rounds of 90mm HE, and 5 rounds of 90mm AP direct fire, knocking out a Mark IV tank.

Prisoners captured by the Corps: 309.

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15 JANUARY 1945

Very determined German resistance was met along the Corps front as units continued to attack south and east toward the objective of HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) and to close the gap between First and Third U.S. Armies. Armored elements on the right flank advanced along the line of L'OURTHE River, captured 4 more towns, sent patrols into HOUFFALIZE. On the left our infantry was repulsed by the defenders of BOVIGNY (P-7082) and strongly counter-attacked. However, some progress was made by armored units in the eastern half of the Corps with VAUX (P-6576) being captured after a hard fight. At the end of the period our forces were meeting very stubborn enemy action in CHERAIN (P-6677) and STERPIGNY (P-6777).

After three to four days of severe fighting to keep a foothold north of L'OURTHE River, the enemy was forced south of the stream opposite the right flank of the Corps, as elements of the 2d Armored Division, after taking ACHOUFFE (P-5774), reached the north bank. However, toward the east (left) of the Corps, the enemy stood more firmly and resisted our growing pressure for the time at least, fighting desperately to hold CHERAIN, STERPIGNY, LONGCHAMPS (P-7082), and BOVIGNY.

In the west the enemy covered his withdrawal with numerous mines, tanks and anti-tank guns. German losses were believed to be enormous in the WIBRIN (P-5576) area, both in men and materiel; in the area FILLY (P-5473) - NADRIN (P-5375) - MORMONT (P-5573) numerous items of German equipment were found, including 3 150mm guns in perfect working condition.

The fighting around CHERAIN and STERPIGNY which was very intense, reached its peak in the afternoon. The Germans used many anti-tank and machine guns, and dug-in infantry were well intrenched in the two towns. They fought back stubbornly while under heavy artillery barrages. By nightfall, elements of the 3d Armored Division were fighting on the Western outskirts of STERPIGNY and on the outskirts of CHERAIN. Further to the north the enemy fought just as determinedly against the 83d Infantry Division to hold BOVIGNY and LONGCHAMPS. He used a mass of small-arms, mortar and anti-tank fire and at the end of the period our forces were held along the eastern edges of BOIS DE RONCHE.

Elements of the 3d Panzer Grenadier Division (8th Regiment and 103d Panzer Battalion) appeared west of DINEZ (P-6076) opposite the 2d Armored Division as did remnants of 116th Panzer Division. Elements of 560th Volksgrenadier, 2d SS Panzer, and 12th Volksgrenadier Divisions were also reidentified.

Broken to overcast clouds with a heavy ground haze rendered visibility very poor and curtailed any fighter-bomber operations. The weather continued cold with the temperature below zero.

84th Infantry Division (less 333d Infantry): There was no contact with the enemy. The 3d Battalion, 334th Infantry, patrolled L'OURTHE River within the Division zone and maintained road blocks. Patrols were awaiting contact with VIII Corps in the vicinity of P-563728. The Division regrouped and awaited further employment with units located as follows: 1st and 3d Battalions, 334th Infantry, BARVAUX (P-4096); 1st Battalion, 335th Infantry, DOCHAMPS (P-4983), 2d Battalion, BIRON (P-3992), 3d Battalion, DEVANTAVE, P-4484).

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2d Armored Division (333d Infantry, attached): Advanced to the north bank of L'OURTHE River, captured ACHOUFFE (P-5774), FONTENAILLE (P-6075), TAVERNEUX (P-6173), and MONT (P-5974). Patrols entered HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) and found no enemy.

3d Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Captured VAUX (P-6576), entered STERPIGNY (P-6777) and held the western half of the town. After an attack on CHERAIN (P-6677) had been repulsed, our forces reached the outskirts late in the period. A strong road block was held at P-644752.

83d Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Patrols were unable to enter BOVIGNY (P-7082) during the forenoon, and the town was later attacked in strength without success. Enemy tanks and infantry counter-attacked and elements were forced to withdraw west to reorganize. At the close of the period our forces had regrouped, strengthened their positions and were bringing up reserves.

4th Cavalry Group, reinforced: Reverted to Corps control at 1200 hours. Units no longer were in contact with the enemy and upon orders assembled for shelter, rehabilitation, and maintenance in the area: HEFFE (P-4285) - LAROCHE (P-4577) - SAMREE (P-5081) - BERISMENIL (P-5277).

2d Armored Division

Task Force A was relieved by the 82d Armored Reconnaissance Battalion and assembled in the vicinity of P-575759. The Reconnaissance Battalion pushed south along the right flank of the Division in the area between BAU DE PREZ and MARTIN MOULIN (P-5777) and met light resistance. A blown bridge was replaced by engineers and the Reconnaissance Battalion continued forward to clear the area of enemy south to L'OURTHE. At the close of the period the 82d Reconnaissance Battalion had consolidated in the vicinity of P-580730 and was maintaining patrols to the river.

Task Force B attacked at 0900 hours and seized the high ground at P-570745 and P-573737 by 1030. ACHOUFFE (P-5774) was cleared of the enemy by 1300 but a destroyed bridge at P-579742 with a strong point at the eastern end held up further progress until 1740. A considerable number of disabled enemy vehicles were encountered to the east of the bridge and they too tended to retard progress. At the close of the period Task Force B had consolidated in the vicinity of P-5973, established contact with the 82d Reconnaissance Battalion and Task Force X, and were maintaining patrols to L'OURTHE with special attention to the high ground at P-602725 and P-606722. Neither the Reconnaissance Battalion or Task Force B had contact with the enemy north of the river at the close of the period.

In the zone of Combat Command White, Task Force X attacked at 1050, seized the ridge in the vicinity of P-600754 and then pushed on to take the town of MONT (P-5974). After clearing the town, Task Force X advanced to the vicinity of P-602745 and finally consolidated for the period in the vicinity of P-604734. Task Force Y on the left of Combat Command zone also attacked at 1050 hours. As was the case with Task Force X, the advance was opposed by dug-in infantry, anti-tank, artillery and mortar fire. Nevertheless, the area in the vicinity of P-607758 was seized and the town of FONTENAILLE (P-6075) secured, although resistance from dug-in tanks was stubbornly supported by infantry. The force then reorganized and attacked again, capturing TAVERNEUX (P-6173) at 1740 hours. At 2230 patrols from Task Force Y entered HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) and found no enemy, only evidence of the German withdrawal.

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3d Armored Division

The 83d Reconnaissance Battalion was assigned the mission of establishing a road block at P-648742 and pushing patrols into SOMMERAINE (P-6375). Road blocks were maintained at P-639761 and P-644752. Enemy pressure against the blocks was reasonably heavy through the day with considerable mortar and artillery fire. The presence of enemy armor in the area and anti-tank fire, coupled with artillery, mortar and small arms fire, prevented the establishing of the proposed road block at P-648742. Patrols were unable to move to SOMMERAINE until 1730, although they reached the town later and returned. Attempts to penetrate into SOMMERAINE were unsuccessful as the town was ouposted with infantry and automatic weapons.

Task Force Kane of Combat Commande Howze, which secured the Division right flank in conjunction with 83d Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, moved from MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478) to initially seize the high ground south of BRISY (P-6575), prior to attacking the town from the south. Task Force Kane made slow but steady progress against dug-in infantry, anti-tank and artillery and by 1340 had reached the road at P-639761 where a road block was held with elements of the Reconnaissance Battalion. Meanwhile, Task Force Hogan had attacked at 0001 hours to sieze the objective of VAUX (P-6576). Such heavy fire was received from dug-in tanks, anti-tank weapons, artillery and mortars that the Task Force withdrew. After reorganizing, Task Force Hogan attacked again, advancing over the difficult terrain against anti-tank, artillery and mortar fire to push tanks into the town by 1540. Infantry followed the armored units and by the close of the period VAUX had been secured.

Combat Command Boudinot began the day's operations with Task Force Lovelady initially containing strong enemy forces at P-653785 while Task Force Welborn advanced via STERPIGNY (P-6777) - RETTIGNY (P-6776) to reduce pressure on Task Force Lovelady, who was then to move to the Combat Command's objective - CHERAIN (P-6677).

Task Force Lovelady advanced at 1200 hours and encountered an enemy minefield at P-658778. Extremely heavy anti-tank, and small arms fire from the east and south halted the advance, and the Task Force was forced to withdraw. At 1530, the Commanding General, Combat Command Boudinot, ordered Task Force Bailey (company of medium tanks and company of infantry) to relieve Task Force Lovelady in position. At the close of the period Task Force Bailey had moved to positions at P-653785 and Task Force Lovelady was reorganizing in the vicinity of MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478).

Meanwhile Task Force Welborn advanced at 1200 and made steady but slow progress against anti-tank, mortar, artillery and small arms fire. By 1400 leading elements were in the town of STERPIGNY where stubborn opposition was met from the defenders. Strong enemy pressure from the east by infantry and armor, coupled with the determined resistance from within the town halted the advance. Elements of Task Force Welborn secured the western part of STERPIGNY but were unable to advance further, and at 1530 reinforcements (a company each of infantry, light and heavy tanks) from Task Force Richardson (Combat Command Hickey) were dispatched to STERPIGNY, and attached to Task Force Welborn to assist in the capture of the town. Prior to the movement of the elements of Task Force Richardson, one platoon of medium tanks from Task Force Orr (Combat Command Hickey) assisted elements of Task Force Welborn in their advance. Richardson's forces moved during the afternoon from the area of Combat Command Hickey and at the close of the period were advancing against small arms and anti-tank fire.

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Combat Command Hickey continued to maintain road blocks within the Division zone. At 1745 they were relieved of the responsibility for blocks north of MONT-LE-BAN. At 1055 a platoon from the 703d (90mm) Tank Destroyer Battalion was attached to the 83d Reconnaissance Battalion. Task Force Orr closed in an assembly area at BACLAIN at 1200. At 1305, Task Force Richardson was attached to Combat Command Boudinot, one platoon of medium tanks from Task Force Orr at BACLAIN was made available to Combat Command Boudinot. Contact was maintained with the 2d Armored Division on the right and the 83d Infantry Division on the left.

83d Infantry Division

During the forenoon, patrols were sent out to the east and southeast by the 331st Infantry and to the east and northeast by the 329th Infantry, but all attempts to enter BOVIGNY (P-7082) were met by strong enemy action. At 1400 the 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry, attacked. Company B attacked to the south from HONYELEZ (P-7083), and Companies A and C attacked from the line: P-689825 - P-691830 in the BOIS DE RONCE. Both these companies were pinned down at the edge of the woods and unable to advance. Company B progressed to the northern edge of BOVIGNY, and at 1630 were counter-attacked and forced by heavy mortar, machine gun, 20mm (horizontal antiaircraft) and anti-tank fire, to withdraw and to reorganise on positions along the east edge of BOIS DE RONCE. After reorganizing, the Company moved back to HONYELEZ.

The 331st Infantry on the right of the Division continued to maintain defensive positions with the 1st and 3d Battalions while the 2d Battalion remained in Regimental reserve and closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of P-684822 at 1500. The 1st Battalion held the line: P-689811 - P-689823, and the 3d Battalion maintained a road block at P-689803 in addition to defensive positions at P-688803 - P-685806 - P-688810. Patrols were active to the east and reported the enemy strong in COURTIL (P-7081).

While the 3d Battalion 329th Infantry, remained in Regimental reserve and closed in an assembly area in the vicinity of P-681832 at 0930, the 2d Battalion sent Company E to the northeast on a patrol mission and by 1600 they had reached the objective (P-702844). Contact was made with the 289th Infantry of the 75th Division at the bridge, vicinity of P-703850. Company F moved to HONYELEZ at approximately 1200 hours where Company G was and remained throughout the period.

ARTILLERY

2d Armd Div: Fired 50 missions as follows: 8 personnel, 6 counterbattery, 2 tank, 20 interdiction and harassing, and 14 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2472.

3d Armd Div: Fired 362 missions as follows: 33 preparation, 79 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 80 close support, 6 counterbattery, 15 tank, 108 interdiction and harassing, and 38 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 10,368.

83d Div: Fired 134 missions as follows: 9 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 15 close support, 2 counterbattery, 1 tank, 80 interdiction and harassing, and 25 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 3281.

Corps: Fired 159 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 31 personnel, 9 counter-battery, 15 tank, 98 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4333.

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Units of the 84th Div Arty were in an assembly area and did not fire during the period(151200-161200).

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Group.

Tank Destroyers: The 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion knocked out 1 vehicle with direct fire and captured 4 prisoners. The 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion had one platoon attached to the 2d Armored Division and one attached to 3d Armored Division for the purpose of firing 3" illuminating shell. The 703d Tank Destroyer Battalion knocked out 1 Mark IV tank.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 738.

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16 JANUARY

Contact was firmly established with the VIII Corps (Third U.S. Army) at HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) and west along L'OURTHE River as the British on our right were pinched out. All enemy were cleared from the right flank of the Corps; CHERAIN (P-6677) and SOMMERAINE (P-6275) were captured and positions in the center of the Corps zone consolidated, while on the left flank the enemy was cleared from the woods north of HOUFFALIZE - ST. VITH (P-8588) Road in the vicinity of P-6880.

It was exactly one month from the day the Germans began the all out effort in the ARDENNES that the enemy saw HOUFFALIZE entered and dominated by elements of VII Corps. Since the Corps started operations in the ARDENNES on 23 December to the reentry into HOUFFALIZE on 16 January, the Germans had been forced back 60-65 kilometers to the east from the point of their furthest penetration to the west in the vicinity of DINANT (O-9888) and the banks of the MEUSE River.

Nevertheless, the enemy fought desperately to hold CHERAIN, STERPIGNY (P-6777) and SOMMERAINE. He waged his typically stubborn defense, making a strong point out of each town and defending tenaciously. When the Germans were finally driven from these towns, positions were taken up on the high ground to the east and northeast, and southeast from which he fired at close range into the villages with anti-tank guns and tanks. Enemy forces grouped several times in the woods east of HONYELEZ (P-7083) to attack the town, but each time our artillery fire scattered his troops. At 1735 he attempted to regain STERPIGNY, and attacked with a company of infantry, supported by assault guns and tanks; this attack was also stopped by artillery. At the close of the period, the enemy began shelling forward elements of the Corps on the left flank as well as towns in the rear area.

During the morning a ground haze obscured visibility, but in the afternoon the weather was clear and cold (still below freezing) and Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command supported the Corps, with 3 missions being flown by the 366th Group. In the area southwest of ST. VITH (P-8588) 5 motor transports were destroyed, and 3 damaged; south of ST. VITH, 5 were knocked out, and a woods at P-6667 bombed and strafed. These bombs missed, but the strafing had good results.

84th Infantry Division (less 333rd Infantry): Remained out of contact with the enemy. Rested and sheltered troops and performed maintenance. The 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, assembled in BARVAUX (P-4036) and the 3rd Battalion of this Regiment moved to PETIT-MAN (P-3695). There was no other change in location.

2nd Armored Division (333rd Infantry, attached): Sent patrols into HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) and made contact at 0 05 hours with elements of the Third U.S. Army east of the town in the vicinity of P-603717; mopped up within Division zone, consolidated positions, and at the end of the period were out of contact with the enemy.

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3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Continued the attack, capturing SOMMERAINE (P-6275), CHERAIN (P-6677) and STERPIGNY (P-6777).

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Attacked in the afternoon clearing the section of BOIS DE BOUCE in the vicinity of the main road through grid square P-6880. Three enemy troop concentrations in the woods east of HONYELEZ (P-7085) were broken up by our artillery and heavy casualties inflicted on the enemy.

4th Cavalry Group: All units continued rehabilitation and maintenance in the area: BUFFE (P-4285), LAROCHE (P-4577), SAMREE (P-5081), BERISMEVIL (P-5277).

2nd Armored Division

Following the entry of its patrols into HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) during the closing hour of 15 January, elements of the 2nd Armored Division cleared TAVERNEUX (P-6173) of snipers and methodically checked the northern section of HOUFFALIZE (north of L'OURTHE River). Enemy artillery fell regularly on front line units during the day.

Combat Command White patrols entered HOUFFALIZE early in the morning and reported it clear of enemy. They also patrolled to L'OURTHE River at P-618726 and P-630729. Recently vacated enemy positions were found but no contact made with the enemy.

The 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion completed sweeping the zone of Combat Command Collier on the right of the Division to L'OURTHE River. Contact was made with the 41st Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, 11th Armored Division, at P-573724, at 0930 hours. The 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, cleared the zone of Combat Command White to the OURTHE. Tank elements of the Command were unable to enter HOUFFALIZE until engineers cleared the highway of mines. Mines were not lifted until after dark as they were covered by direct tank fire, observed artillery fire, and sniper fire from across the River. Patrols crossed L'OURTHE into the southern part of the town and made contact with the 41st Cavalry Squadron.

Bridges across the River were reconnoitered. The main bridge was reported to have a 60 foot gap, but the foot bridge intact, and a secondary bridge to the west capable of supporting light vehicles. Engineers continued clearance of the highway into town after dark. Plans were made for the movement of the Division to an assembly area west of VERVIERS (K-6722) where rest and rehabilitation of units would be continued.

3rd Armored Division

After entering STERPIGNY (P-6777) early in the morning against moderate small arms fire, enemy fire decreased throughout the day. SOMMERAINE (P-6275) and CHERAIN (P-6677) were also captured. The enemy employed heavy anti-tank fire from the woods south of CHERAIN to prevent any movement toward BRIST (P-6575). At 1735, a double column of enemy infantry estimated

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at 200 men, supported by two assault guns and two Mark V tanks, attempted to move into STERPIGNY, but were stopped by our artillery. Small groups of enemy tanks operated throughout the day along the Division front, firing at close range into the towns and at friendly troops wherever exposed. At the end of the period, heavy artillery fire was received along the CHERAIN - STERPIGNY Road, in LOMRE (P-6479) and in STERPIGNY. An estimated 25 enemy tanks were destroyed during the period.

At 1030 the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion attacked SOMMERAINE, and at 1150 the town was secured and contact established with elements of the 2nd Armored Division at P-624748. Road blocks at P-639761, P-644751, and P-648744 were maintained throughout the period.

Task Force Kane of Combat Command Howze attacked at 0830 from P-641756 - P-643758 to secure HRISY and as soon as the leading elements moved out of the woods to the open ground to the south, they received heavy and accurate tank, anti-tank, artillery, and self-propelled gun fire from the east and southeast. Throughout the day repeated attempts to advance were made, but every move toward the south was met with heavy fire and at the close of the period Task Force Kane held positions approximately the same as in the morning.

Elements of Task Force Hogan moved into CHERAIN from VAUX at 1900 hours. The bridge at P-661773 was blown which prevented tanks from being moved in. The infantry of Task Force Hogan remained in the town until relieved by Task Force Bailey of Combat Command Boudinot. Meanwhile, other elements of Task Force Hogan attacked from the vicinity of VAUX to the south to assist Task Force Kane in the capture of HRISY and immediately encountered heavy and accurate tank, anti-tank, and artillery fire from the east, south, and southeast. The enemy resisted stubbornly throughout the day and at the close of the period Task Force Hogan was in the vicinity of VAUX.

In the zone of Combat Command Boudinot, Task Force Richardson (attached from Combat Command Hickey) continued the advance to STERPIGNY to assist Task Force Welborn, and reached the town at 0445. Stubborn enemy resistance in STERPIGNY continued throughout the day. One attempt by an enemy column to enter the town was broken up by artillery fire. During the day considerable tank, small arms and anti-tank fire was received from the woods in the vicinity of P-685784. At the close of the period Task Force Welborn and Richardson, less certain detachments, held positions in STERPIGNY.

At 0900 Combat Command Boudinot sent a force of tanks to CHERAIN to assist the infantry of Task Force Hogan. Task Force Bailey, consisting of a company of medium tanks and a company of infantry from Task Force Richardson, advanced into the town from the northwest, encountering heavy anti-tank fire from the high ground southeast of CHERAIN. Infantry of Task Force Hogan were relieved, and at 1415 Task Force Bailey sent a force consisting of seven medium tanks, south to enter REPTIGNY. This force

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advanced to P-670770 where it received anti-tank fire from the woods south of CHERAIN which resulted in the loss of two tanks. The remainder of the force was then withdrawn to CHERAIN. At the close of the period Combat Command Boudinot had consolidated STERPIGNY and CHERAIN, and plans were completed for an attack to the east on 17 January.

Effective at 0800, Task Force Lovelady was attached to Combat Command Hickey and at the close of the period was assembled in the vicinity of MONT-LE-BAT, conducting reorganization, refitting, maintenance of equipment and rehabilitation. Combat Command Hickey held 14 road blocks throughout the Division area.

83rd Infantry Division

Elements of the Division in HOWYELEZ (P-7083) received intense, accurate fire from the enemy occupying the woods just east of the town in the vicinity P-709832. During the afternoon three enemy troop concentrations were observed preparing to attack HOWYELEZ and were dispersed by our artillery with heavy losses. In the town of BOVIGNY (P-7082), the enemy was firmly entrenched and reacted to any movement toward the town with small arms, mortar and direct fire. At least five tanks were destroyed.

Units remained in place during the morning. In the afternoon elements of the 331st Infantry cleared the southern part of the BOIS DE ROUCE north of the HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) - ST. VITH (P-8588) Road. Positions were held generally along the eastern edge of the BOIS DE ROUCE. The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, held position from P-680811 to P-6[illegible]823 with Company C at P-686805 - P-6[illegible]807. Other units of the Regiment were deployed as follows: Company E, P-672812; Company K, P-678807; Company G, P-680797 - P-682798; Company L, P-683804; Company F, P-683801 - P-684802; Company I, P-684805. The 329th Infantry held positions on the left of the Division zone as follows: 3rd Battalion, P-681832; 1st Battalion, less Company B, P-6[illegible]824 - P-692831 - P-695835; 2nd Battalion, less Company E, P-700840 - P-70[illegible]; Companies B and E, HOWYELEZ (P-7083).

Artillery

2nd Armd Div: Fired 5[illegible] missions as follows: 3 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 228.

3rd Armd Div: Fired 214 missions as follows: 13 preparation, 61 personnel, 7 mortar and machine gun, 35 close support, 7 counterbattery, 60 interdiction and harassing, and 31 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 9203.

83rd Div: Fired 134 missions as follows: 9 preparation, 12 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 7 close support, 4 counterbattery, 4 tank, 73 interdiction and harassing, and 24 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 29[illegible].

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24-hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 49.

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17 JANUARY

Armored and infantry elements attacked to clear the woods in the vicinity of P-6979, making only slight progress. Hill 450 (P-672770) was occupied. Other units consolidated front line positions while those in the rear area of the Corps rested and performed maintenance.

Having lost HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) during the preceding period the enemy fought back with artillery, mortar, and tank fire to prevent any further movement to the east by our forces. However, after having been subjected to this heavy fire, our forces succeeded in their second advance to gain and hold the high ground southeast of CHERAIN - STERPIGNY (P-6777).

Prisoners taken during the day revealed that the enemy had reinforced his troops in the STERPIGNY area with elements of the 15th Panzer Grenadier Division. Twice the enemy tried to attack our forces southwest of COURTIL (P-7081) with tanks. The first attempt was nullified by artillery before it developed, while the second attempted counter-attack was also halted before it reached our lines by artillery fire, causing heavy casualties among the Germans. Continued cold with intermittent snow throughout the period prevented air support.

84th Infantry Division: Remained in assembly area, resting and performing maintenance and rehabilitation. The 333rd Infantry was detached from 2nd Armored Division and reverted to Division control at 0800. Location of units was as follows: 333rd Infantry, 1st Battalion, vicinity of K-315045 and P-305990, 2nd Battalion, BORLON (K-3400), 3rd Battalion, PETITE SOMME (P-3497) - SEPTON (P-3597) - PALANGE (P-3698); 334th Infantry, 1st and 2nd Battalions, BARVAUX (P-4096), 3rd Battalion, PETITE HAN (P-3695); 335th Infantry, 1st Battalion, DOCHAMPS (P-4983), 2nd Battalion, BIRON (P-3992), 3rd Battalion, DEVANTAVE (P-4484).

2nd Armored Division: Had no contact with the enemy, but maintained strong defensive patrols in its zone. Contact was made with the 507th Parachute Infantry (17th Airborne Division) of VIII Corps, and a bridge was constructed over L'OURTHE River at HOUFFALIZE (P-6172). Units not thus engaged performed maintenance and rehabilitation. Operational task forces were dissolved and components reverted to parent units. Location of units at the close of the period was as follows: 41st Armored Infantry Regiment, 1st Battalion, BRISCHE (P-4790), 2nd Battalion, ACHOUFFE (P-5774), 3rd Battalion, MOUT (P-5974); 66th Armored Regiment, 1st Battalion, vicinity of P-568794, 2nd Battalion, vicinity of P-563828, 3rd Battalion, ACHOUFFE (P-5774); 67th Armored Regiment, 1st Battalion, vicinity of P-594703, 2nd Battalion, vicinity of P-608743, 3rd Battalion, P-607817. The 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion patrolled along L'OURTHE River.

3rd Armored Division (330th Infantry, attached): Made local gains against stiff resistance, capturing and occupying HILL 450 (P-672770), cleared STERPIGNY (P-6777) and continued to secure SOUVERAIN (P-6275), VAUX (P-6570) and CHERAIN (P-6677).

83rd Infantry Division (less 330th Infantry): Attacked to clear the woods in grid square P-6879, captured enemy supply dump at LONCIN (P-6879), and repulsed enemy counter-attack with heavy losses to the enemy, knocking out at least 7 tanks.

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3rd Armored Division

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion continued to occupy and secure SOMMETAINE (P-6275) throughout the period and Task Force Kane maintained defensive positions on the high ground at P-643756. Patrols were pushed to the southeast toward BRISY (P-6575). Task Force Lovelady remained attached to Combat Command Hickey and Task Force Richardson remained under operational control of Combat Command Boudinot. The former remained in MONT-LE-HAN (P-6478). Combat Command Hickey maintained 25 road blocks in the Division zone.

Task Force Welborn attacked from the vicinity of CHERAIN (P-6576) at 0900 to secure the high ground at P-672770. Strong opposition was encountered from tanks and infantry supported by artillery and mortar fire. After withdrawing for reorganization and following an artillery preparation at 1225, a second attack against the objective was successful and the commanding ground secured at 1345 where positions were organized.

Task Force Richardson continued clearing enemy resistance from STERPIGNY (P-6777) and at 1500 launched an attack astride the STERPIGNY - GOUVY (P-7177) road to eliminate enemy resistance along this line and to the eastern edge of woods at P-700785. Strong opposition was encountered, with small arms, mortar, tank and artillery fire coming from the woods east of the creek at P-684781. A flanking force was sent northeast out of STERPIGNY in an effort to outflank the resistance at P-684781. This flanking force encountered a minefield at P-680786 and was held up at this point. Other elements were held up in the vicinity of P-684781.

83rd Infantry Division

The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, was relieved by the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, at P-689811 - P-689823, and the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 331st Infantry, attacked at 1200 to clear the woods in grid squares P-6879 and P-6979. The 1st Battalion encountered 6 enemy tanks, destroying 2 and drove the others to the east. At 1400 an enemy counter-attack of ten tanks and approximately a company of infantry developed from the vicinity of P-693805 and moved southeast. Artillery TOT's were placed on the attackers killing practically all the infantry involved and destroying or disabling 5 more tanks. The remnants of this enemy force withdrew towards COURTIL. The 1st Battalion then moved to positions along the line: P-690797 - P-696802, and the 2nd Battalion reached its initial objective along the line: P-683798 - P-686793 - P-689796. The 3rd Battalion reduced an enemy strong point at P-688804 and cleared the woods to the main road south of that point. Contact was also maintained with the 3rd Armored Division to the south and road blocks manned at P-683799 and P-688803.

In the zone of the 329th Infantry on the left of the Division front, the 3rd Battalion relieved the 1st Battalion along the line: P-689824 - P-692831 - P-695835, patrolled to the southeast meeting resistance after advancing 200-400 yards, and established road blocks at P-691823, P-691818, P-690827, P-689826, P-690815. The 2nd Battalion, less Company E, moved to HONVELEZ (P-7083) while Company E held positions at P-705844 - P-700840. The 1st Battalion was at P-692803 - P-687794.

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Artillery

2nd Armd Div: Fired 3 personnel missions, expending 78 rounds.

3rd Armd Div: Fired 277 missions as follows: 20 preparation, 32 personnel, 6 mortar and machine gun, 107 close support, 7 counterbattery, 10 tank, 89 interdiction and harassing, and 6 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 5865.

83rd Div: Fired 88 missions as follows: 4 preparation, 5 personnel, 5 close support, 3 tank, 55 interdiction and harassing, and 16 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1752.

Corps: Fired 120 missions as follows: 33 preparation, 5 personnel, 8 close support, 71 counterbattery, and 3 tank. Rounds expended: 4331.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 629th TD Bn fired 22 rounds of 3" HE, 21 rounds of 3" APC, and 2 rounds of HVAP, direct fire, knocking out 1 Mark V tank. 635th TD Bn fired 5 rounds of 3" illuminating shell indirect fire. The 702nd TD Bn fired 23 rounds of 90mm HE and 8 rounds of 90mm AP direct fire.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 127.

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18 JANUARY 1945

Armored and infantry elements continued the attack to clear the woods on the left flank in the vicinity of P-6879 and P-6979. Cavalry units took over right flank defenses along L'OURTHE River. Other Corps units in forward areas held positions and consolidated, while those in rear areas continued rehabilitation of personnel and maintenance of equipment.

The enemy continued for the second consecutive day to defend stubbornly the ground around COURTIL (P-7081) - BOVIGNY (P-7082) and the road leading east from STERPIGNY (P-6777). Although he committed elements of the newly arrived 15th Panzer Grenadier Division to bolster his other troops in this sector, the enemy was obliged to give ground steadily throughout the period. The enemy used mines extensively in this area as well as felled trees to delay our advance. Nevertheless, our forces made progress and after clearing a minefield at P-691786, reached a point at P-702788, northwest of GOUVY (P-7177).

Further to the south, our patrols probing to the southeast toward RETTIGNY (P-6775), reached the outskirts of the town but were forced back by heavy mortar and artillery fire. Resistance to our advance south of COURTIL through the wooded area was moderate until 1845 when direct fire was received from tanks covering the movement of motorized infantry to the northwest toward COURTIL. It was believed that the enemy seeing his route of withdrawal east from HALCONREUX (P-7078) menaced by our advance toward GOUVY, was forced to use the route through COURTIL in an effort to extricate his troops.

Intermittent snows of the previous day continued through the period with approximately 4 to 5 inches falling. Visibility was poor and no aircraft supported the Corps attack.

The boundary between VII and VIII Corps was set as L'OURTHE River from HOTTON (P-3788) to OURTHE (P-7478) with both towns included in the VII Corps zone.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry): The 335th Infantry was attached to and moved to the zone of the 3rd Armored Division. Other units remained in previous locations except the 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry which moved units to the following towns: CLAVIER (K-3104), BOIS ET BORSU (K-2902), and BORLON (K-3400).

2nd Armored Division: 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion maintained defensive patrols along the Division front. Other units remained in sheltered areas in the same locations as the previous day and continued resting, performing maintenance and rehabilitation of personnel.

4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron relieved right flank elements of the 3rd Armored Division and under Corps control, assumed responsibility for that portion of the front.

3rd Armored Division (2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, and 335th Infantry, attached): Made slight progress northeast of STERPIGNY (P-6777), advanced to P-702788, northwest of GOUVY (P-7178) and patrols reached RETTIGNY (P-6775)

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to the south and returned. The 335th Infantry was attached and relieved the 330th Infantry, less 2nd Battalion, which reverted to 83rd Division control. The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron relieved Combat Command Howze of its zone on the Division right flank.

83rd Infantry Division (less 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry): Completed clearing the woods south of COURTIL (P-7081). This advance cleared practically all the woods in the Division zone to the HALCONREUX (P-7078) - COURTIL (P-7071) Road, but late in the period enemy tank fire forced Companies A and B, 331st Infantry to withdraw into the woods about 200 yards.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, with Company C, 759th Light Tank Battalion, Company C, 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion, and a platoon of Company C, 298th Engineer Combat Battalion attached, moved at 0730 hours to relieve elements of the 3rd Armored Division (Combat Command Howze) of positions along the lines SOMMERAINE (P-6375) - VAUX (P-6576). This relief was completed by 1245, and the 4th Cavalry Squadron assumed responsibility for the area. Patrols were sent out and contacted friendly elements on both flanks. A small enemy patrol approached P-654765 and was driven off with small arms and assault gun fire.

Units of the 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued maintenance and rehabilitation in the vicinity of LAROCHE (P-4577). Company A, 759th Light Tank Battalion, was relieved by Company B at VII Corps Headquarters (LIERNEUX, P-6188) and Battalion Headquarters Company and Company A moved to PETITES TAILLES (P-5983). Elements of the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion moved to the vicinity of P-605800 and coordinated the anti-tank defenses of that area. Elements that had been in indirect fire positions in the vicinity of DINEZ (P-6076) reverted to Group control.

3rd Armored Division

At 0600 a heavy concentration of mortar and artillery fire was received in CHERAIN (P-6677) constituting the initial enemy activity for the period after a very quiet night. Small arms, mortar, and self-propelled gun fire slowed our progress northeast of STERPIGNY (P-6777), and the bridge at P-683780 was found covered by enemy fire, as well as mined. Minefields were also encountered at P-681785 and P-691786 which after being cleared allowed our troops to advance against slightly lighter resistance until a point at P-702788, northwest of GOUVY (P-7177) was reached. Here again the road was found mined and blocked by felled trees. Patrols worked their way into PETTIGNY (P-6775) but were forced to withdraw to the west of the town under heavy bazooka, small arms, and artillery fire. Most of the opposition during the day was from the 9th SS Panzer Division and the 15th Panzer Grenadier Division.

The 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion and Combat Command Howze -- Task Forces Kane and Brown (formerly Hogan) -- were relieved by elements of the 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron and that unit assumed responsibility for the Division right flank. Units of Combat Command Howze moved to the MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478) - LOMRE (P-6479) area and the Reconnaissance Battalion assembled in the vicinity of REGNE (P-6185) and BIHAIN (P-6283).

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At 1135, a patrol from Combat Command Howze had been sent to BRISY (P-6575) and was able to approach within 25 yards of the bridge at P-664764 when small arms and mortar fire were received. The bridge was reported intact but unsafe for heavy loads. In preparation for operations on 19 January, a treadway bridge was to be put in during the night of 18/19 January. Company L, 335th Infantry, which had reverted to Combat Command Howze control at 1800, was assigned the mission of securing the high ground across the stream in support of bridging operations. Responsibility for the security of the MONT-LE-BAN - LOMRE area was assumed by Combat Command Howze.

In the zone of Combat Command Boudinot, Task Force Welborn continued to secure the ground at P-672770. Company B, 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, was attached at 0800 and helped in eliminating enemy resistance in the area at P-665767. At 1000, a patrol from this company pushed from CHERAIN (P-6677) to RETTIGNY (P-6676). By 1520, the edge of the town was reached. RETTIGNY was found to be strongly held by the enemy. Heavy small arms, mortar and artillery fire were received, and the patrol was ordered to withdraw under the cover of darkness. Pending determination of the defense of RETTIGNY, Company L, 335th Infantry, was attached to Combat Command Boudinot from Combat Command Howze. This company moved to CHERAIN where it was alerted to move into RETTIGNY should the town be unoccupied. As the town was well organized by the enemy, this Company was not utilized and reverted back to control of Command Howze in CHERAIN.

Meanwhile, Task Force Richardson of Combat Command Boudinot continued to advance to the east from STERPIGNY (P-6777) with the mission of sweeping the area to the eastern edge of the woods in the vicinity of P-702785. Small arms mortar, anti-tank, and artillery fire were encountered. The extremely heavy woods made movement difficult, but by 1645, the objective had been secured. Hasty road blocks and mines blocked the road from STERPIGNY to GOUVY (P-7177). These obstacles were cleared by 2045 hours and a road block constructed at P-705785.

Regrouping of forces by Combat Command Hickey for future operations was conducted during the day. Upon relief of road blocks in the MONT-LE-BAN - BACLAIN area by Combat Command Howze at 1500, Task Forces Lovelady and Doan assembled in the AU TILLIEUL (P-6679) - BACLAIN area. Under the cover of darkness these two units then moved to assembly areas in the vicinity of P-6978.

83rd Infantry Division

At 0900 the 2nd and 1st Battalions, 331st Infantry, attacked to complete clearing the woods south of COURTIL (P-7081) with the latter making the main effort. Company E moved east to protect the rear and right flank of the 1st Battalion and Company G moved south to clear the woods to the Division boundary. Resistance was light and at the close of the period the 2nd Battalion held the lines P-682798 - P-687793 - P-699793. Meanwhile the 1st Battalion encountered only moderate resistance from small arms and sporadic artillery fire, advanced through the snow and across wooded terrain to clear practically the entire woods in the Division zone to the HALCONREUX (P-7078) - COURTIL (P-7081) Road. At approximately 1900 hours, 3 enemy tanks hit the 1st Battalion with heavy direct fire from the road in the vicinity of P-705979. Companies A and C were forced to withdraw two hundred yards into the woods.

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Final positions were as follows: P-689802 - P-700800 - P-707799 - P-703797 - P-704795 - P-703793. The 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry, remained in previous positions during the period to protect the rear of the 1st Battalion. Weather and terrain rendered trails in forward areas impassable for vehicles or tanks, making it necessary to transport food and ammunition by carrying parties.

In the zone of the 329th Infantry on the left flank of the Division, the 1st Battalion maintained defensive positions and road blocks at P-689815, P-690827, and P-690824. The 3rd Battalion held positions and patroled to the front toward BOVIGNY (P-7082) and COURTIL (P-7081). Both towns were found to still be occupied by the enemy. The 2nd Battalion improved positions and made physical contact with the 75th Infantry Division on the left.

The 1st and 3rd Battalion, 330th Infantry, reverted to Division control and moved to assembly areas. The 1st Battalion closed in the vicinity of HAMOIR (K-4305) at 1800. The 3rd Battalion had units in the following places: HAMOIR, FILOT (K-4605), BRESSINE (K-4802) and ST. ROCH (K-5004).

Artillery

3rd Armored Division: Fired 226 missions as follows: 44 preparation, 4 personnel, 10 mortar and machine gun, 40 close support, 21 counterbattery, 4 tank, 101 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4692.

83rd Division: Fired 93 missions as follows: 10 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 1 close support, 2 counterbattery, 6 tank, 61 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2555.

Corps: Fired 71 missions as follows: 6 preparation, 1 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 3 close support, 1 tank, 55 interdiction and harassing, and 3 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2096.

Other units did not fire.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: Not engaged during the 24 hour period ending at 0800.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 63.

19 JANUARY 1945

Armored units cleared the enemy from the area west of longitudinal grid line 70 and north of L'OURTHE River, occupying the towns of BRISY (P-6574), RETTIGNY (P-6776) and RENGLEZ (P-6775), while infantry entered BOVIGNY (P-7082) and COURTIL (P-7081) unopposed. The reinforced 4th Cavalry Group relieved the 2nd Armored Division on the right of the Corps front, and the latter unit began the move to an assembly area in the vicinity of SPRIMONT (K-5313).

In general the period was characterized by a withdrawal on the part of the enemy from positions that had become untenable. Our advances of the past

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two days, which cut the northeast highway out of HOUPPALIZE (P-6172) and enabled us to occupy several points along the southeast ridge of the road, made it impossible for the enemy to continue his hold on the towns of BOVIGNY and COURTIL, as well as BRISY, RETTIGNY and RENGLEZ.

Under the cover of darkness (18/19 January) enemy troops pulled out of these towns leaving a small screening force to delay our advance. All evidence pointed to the fact that this withdrawal was hastily carried out. Consequently, the resistance met by our troops was considerably lighter during the day, and the towns were occupied against scattered resistance. Mines and road blocks occurred less frequently. Enemy artillery fire was lighter, and very little armor was encountered.

Low clouds and intermittent snow throughout the day made visibility very poor and no fighter-bomber support was possible. Strong surface winds added greatly to the discomfort of the troops engaged.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry): Units remained in assembly areas and continued maintenance and rehabilitation.

2nd Armored Division (less 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, reinforced): Was relieved of its defensive mission at 2000 by the reinforced 4th Cavalry Group. Division trains began move to SPRIMONT (K-5313). Other units remained in previous locations.

4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): At 2000 the Group assumed responsibility for the defense of the 2nd Armored Division sector along the line: SCHERAINE (P-6375) - VAUX (P-6576). The Group was further reinforced for this mission by the attachment of the 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, and Antiaircraft Field Artillery units, which remained in original positions for the performance of their mission. The 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron remained assembled, occupying billets.

3rd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): During the hours of darkness a task force cleared the main road east of STERPIGNY (P-6777), which allowed a Combat Command to later attack through their positions and capture the towns of RETTIGNY (P-6776) and RENGLEZ (P-6775), and dominate the terrain to the south and southeast in grid squares P-6775 and P-6875. Meanwhile other units captured BRISY (P-6575) and the high ground at P-660747.

83rd Infantry Division: Early in the period units moved to reoccupy the positions lost during the latter part of the previous day along the eastern edge of BOIS DE RONCE and in the afternoon entered the towns of BOVIGNY (P-7082) and COURTIL (P-7081) in force without opposition. The 330th Infantry units remained in rear area assembly positions and rested. The 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, reverted to Division and Regimental control from the 2nd Armored Division at 0800 hours.

3rd Armored Division

In the zone of Combat Command Howze (Reserve) on the right of the Division, Task Force Brown (formerly Hogan) held road blocks (numbers, 1-10) during the day. Task Force Kane attacked to secure BRISY (P-6575) and the high ground in the vicinity of P-660746. By 1200 elements of the Task Force had reached the high ground at P-660746 and at 1215 other elements were in

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BRISY. At 1300, BRISY and the commanding ground to the southeast had been secured. Oppositions was light and scattered.

Units of the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion remained in assembly area in the vicinity of BIHAIN (P-6283) and REGNE (P-6185). Elements with Task Force Welborn (Combat Command Boudinot) reverted to Battalion control at 1500 and two hours later closed in REGNE. Task Force Welborn held positions on the high ground in the vicinity of P-672770 until 1200 and positions in the vicinity of P-666766 until 1130, and closed in CHERAIN (P-6677). Having cleared the main road east of STERPIGNY (P-6777) during darkness. Task Force Richardson held positions east of STERPIGNY until relieved by elements of Task Force Lovelady and then assembled in the town. Elements of 330th Infantry which had been attached to the Division left during the afternoon to rejoin their parent unit.

On the left flank of the Division, Combat Command Hickey passed through Task Force Richardson and seized the objective towns of RETTIGNY (P-6776) and RENGLEZ (P-6775). Task Force Lovelady attacked at 0730 to secure objectives (P-703783, P-702771, P-700760). Little resistance was encountered and by 0940 elements of Task Force Lovelady had secured the first two of these objectives. At 1030 the enemy attempted to counter-attack units at P-704772, but were quickly dispersed. By 1500 all three objectives had been secured. At 1900 Task Force Lovelady relieved Task Force Richardson of positions on the commanding ground east of STERPIGNY, and the latter unit assembled in the town.

Meanwhile, Task Force Doan attacked at 0800 against light, scattered enemy opposition and by 1350 had infantry on the high ground at P-687744 and P-687752. At 1430 elements of this Force had occupied both RETTIGNY and RENGLEZ. The high ground to the south at P-676750 and P-688754 was also secured, thus clearing the Division zone of the enemy as far west at the 70th longitudinal grid line and as far south as the line of the OURTHE River.

83rd Infantry Division

Early in the period the 329th Infantry moved to recover positions companies of the 1st Battalion were forced to yield at the close of the previous day due to direct enemy tank fire. The 1st Battalion maintained positions along the eastern fringe of the BOIS DE RONCE. Company A sent patrols into BOVIGNY (P-704822), and the entire Company moved into the town at 1600 hours. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry, held positions with Companies B and C on the line: P-688824 - P-695835 and Company A in BOVIGNY. The 2nd Battalion remained in place until 1700 when Company F moved into BOVIGNY (P-7082). Other units of the 2nd Battalion remained in the vicinity of HONYELEZ (P-7083). The 3rd Battalion, 329th Infantry, after holding positions during the morning, dispatched Company K to P-683806 at 1200 to be attached to the 331st Infantry, and Company L occupied COURTIL (P-7081) at 2000. Other units maintained positions from P-698802 to P-701802.

On the right of the Division front, the 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, advanced its line to the edge of the woods at P-704798 - P-704795 - P-704802, until relieved by Company K, 329th Infantry, at 1500, when the Battalion moved to LANGLIR (P-6582). Company G moved to P-704795 with the rest of the 2nd Battalion maintaining previous position, while the 3rd Battalion held

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the same line as during the previous period. The 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, reverted to Division and Regimental control and moved to assembly positions in the vicinity of VILLERS STE. GERTRUDE (P-4698), IZIER (K-4600), and THIER-DE-FERRIERES (K-4801). The 1st and 3rd Battalions, 330th Infantry, remained in HAMOIR (K-4305).

Artillery

3rd Armored Division: Fired 122 missions as follows: 12 personnel, 3 mortar and machine gun, 88 interdiction and harassing, and 19 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 4305.

83rd Division: Fired 66 missions as follows: 3 personnel, 4 close support, 48 interdiction and harassing, and 11 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1336.

Corps: Fired 37 missions as follows: 1 personnel, 3 counterbattery, 1 tank, 27 interdiction and harassing, and 5 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1636.

2nd Armored Division and 84th Infantry Division did not fire during the period.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: The 629th TD Bn fired 2 rounds of 3" illuminating shell, indirect fire, and the 635th TD Bn fired 4 rounds of 3" illuminating shell, indirect fire.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 1414

20 JANUARY 1945

Left flank elements occupied CIERREUX (P-7184) without opposition, while Cavalry Troops relieved additional armored units along the front. Most units of the Corps were out of contact with the enemy. Other units began assembling in preparation for moving to billeting areas on 21 January.

The period was extremely quiet as regards enemy activity. Other than sporadic artillery fire which fell on BOVIGNY (P-7082), COURTIL (P-7081) and CIERREUX, there was no enemy action along the Corps front. There were additional signs of an enemy withdrawal. At 1600 patrols entered the town of CIERREUX and found it clear of enemy, but a fire fight at that time across the Corps boundary (75th Infantry Division zone), gave proof that the enemy had not completely evacuated the area. A small number of enemy troops was observed dug-in on the edge of the woods northeast of BOVIGNY, and also east of the town of COURTIL, but no aggressive action was attempted by any of these groups.

Visibility was poor during the day with broken clouds and light intermittent snow becoming continuous toward the close of period which resulted in a fall of about 4 inches of snow.

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4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): Relieved additional units of 3rd Armored Division and assumed responsibility for the increased sector at 1200. Patrols south to the OURTHE River failed to make contact with the enemy.

3rd Armored Division (335th Infantry, attached): Task Forces Kane and Doan were relieved by elements of the reinforced 4th Cavalry Squadron. Task Force Doan relieved Task Force Lovelady, and all elements except Task Force Doan assembled in preparation for the move to billeting areas. The attached 335th Infantry relieved the 331st Infantry, 83rd Division, holding the right flank of that Division zone.

83rd Infantry Division: The 335th Infantry relieved the 331st Infantry on the right flank of the Division front, while the 329th Infantry on the left flank occupied CIERREUX (P-7184) without opposition.

84th Infantry Division (less 335th Infantry): Artillery and other units moved into the zone of the 83rd Division. Infantry units continued maintenance and rest in previous locations.

2nd Armored Division (less 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion): 41st Armored Infantry Regiment and 67th Armored Regiment moved to new Division assembly area in the vicinity of SPRIMONT (K-5313), assembling these as combat commands. Division artillery and part of Division trains remained to be moved to the new area.

4th Cavalry Group

The 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron commenced displacing to the east at 0830 hours and relieved elements of Combat Command Howze within the new Group area, the front of which extended along L'OURTHE River from P-575726, east to P-684746. Relief was completed by 1200. Patrols operated south to the River without making any contact with the enemy. The bridge at P-650738 was reported out. Contact was maintained with elements of 3rd Armored Division to the left and units of the 17th Airborne Division operating to the front. Units occupied BEFFE (P-4285), LAROCHE (P-4577), SAMREE (P-5081), BERISMENIL (P-5277), and VAUX (P-6576). The 82nd Armored Reconnaissance held positions along the OURTHE on the right of the Group front and maintained contact with Airborne units in the vicinity of HOUFFALIZE (P-6172) and patrolled the River from the vicinity of P-562722 to P-630730. Elements of the 635th Tank Destroyer Battalion assembled in the vicinity of SOMMERAINE (P-6375) and TAVERNEUX (P-6173). The 759th Light Tank Battalion remained in Group Reserve.

3rd Armored Division

After being relieved by elements of the 4th Cavalry Group, Task Force Doan of Combat Command Hickey, relieved Task Force Lovelady and the later reverted to Combat Command Boudinot control. Task Force Doan completed the relief of Task Force Lovelady by 1645 hours and took up defensive positions at P-687753, P-701785, P-701777, P-702758, P-703767, and P-705775. Following its relief Task Force Lovelady moved to assembly positions in the CHERAIN (P-6677) - STERPIGNY (P-6777) area with other units of Combat Command Boudinot. Elements of Combat Command Howze assembled in the BACLAIN (P-6679) -

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BIHAIN (P-6283) area, the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion remained in the vicinity of BIHAIN, and Combat Command Hickey, less Task Force Doan, assembled in the vicinity of BACLAIN - STERPIGNY.

The 1st Battalion, 335th Infantry, reverted to control of its parent unit at 1200 from attachment to Task Force Lovelady, and at 1400, the Battalion took over the sector held by elements of the 331st Infantry in the vicinity of P-687803 - P-703800 - P-703785, completing the relief by 1750. Contact was established with 3rd Battalion, 329th Infantry at P-689801. The 2nd Battalion remained attached to Task Force Richardson in STERPIGNY, and the 3rd Battalion, 335th Infantry, was assembled in MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478).

83rd Infantry Division

On the left flank of the Division, the 329th Infantry moved additional troops into BOVIGNY (P-7082) and COURTIL (P-7081) and patrolled to the east. The 1st Battalion closed in BOVIGNY at 1600, maintaining road blocks at P-683831 and P-683827. The 2nd Battalion sent patrols east to CIE REUX (P-7184) with a platoon of Company E occupying the town. The remainder of Company E and Company G held positions in HONVELEZ (P-7083) while Company F remained in BOVIGNY. The 3rd Battalion, less Company K, occupied COURTIL. Company K was attached to the 331st Infantry. After that Regiment was relieved by the 335th Infantry, units moved to assembly areas as follows: 2nd Battalion, DEUX - RYS (P-4895), 3rd Battalion, FAYS (P-5097), and 1st Battalion, AISNE (P-4597). Units of the 330th Infantry continued rest, maintenance and rehabilitation in the same locations as the previous period.

Artillery

83rd Division: Fired 47 missions as follows: 7 personnel, 1 mortar and machine gun, 6 close support, 24 interdiction and harassing, and 9 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 991.

Corps: Fired 57 missions as follows: 1 mortar and machine gun, 5 counterbattery, 37 interdiction and harassing, and 14 miscellaneous.

Other units were not engaged.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: 629th fired 4 rounds of 3" HE and 1 round of 3" APC direct fire in support of advancing infantry, and 1 round of 3" illuminating shell, indirect fire.

Prisoners of War taken by the Corps: 41.

21 JANUARY 1945

The 84th Infantry Division completed the move to its new area, taking over the sector formerly held by elements of the 3rd Armored and 83rd Infantry Divisions. At the close of the period these units occupying the front line of VII Corps had made no contact with the enemy, and all other troops

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were out of contact with the enemy, either enroute to or preparing to move to rear assembly areas for rest, rehabilitation and maintenance.

Positive evidence that the enemy had not withdrawn entirely from opposite VII Corps was the fact that he placed a few rounds of nebelwerfer fire along the front line positions in the late afternoon. Patrols reached the outskirts of GOUVY (P-7177) where enemy vehicular movement was heard indicating the enemy was still there. An enemy outpost was located at P-712778, 500 yards west of GOUVY, and found to be occupied by 3 men manning a machine gun. ROGERY (P-7284) was occupied by our troops late in the morning with no resistance being encountered. Cavalry units had no contact with the enemy on the right flank.

Behind the First U.S. Army's front lines there was marked evidence of a large scale enemy withdrawal from the ST. VITH (P-8588) area to the northeast. Fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Force, although unable to perform close support missions due to intermittent snow flurries throughout the day, flew armed reconnaissance and, attacking targets of opportunity, claimed 263 motor vehicles destroyed, 11 probably destroyed, and 190 damaged. Other claims were 14 armored vehicles destroyed, 22 damaged, 27 horse drawn vehicles destroyed, 1 damaged, 78 railway cars destroyed, 125 damaged, and 2 locomotives knocked out with 1 probably knocked out.

4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): There was no contact with the enemy, and no change in the location of units other than the assembly of the 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion with elements of this reinforced unit moving to the following towns in preparation for rejoining the 2nd Armored Division: ACHOUFFE (P-5774), MONT (P-5974) and TAVERNEUX (P-6173).

84th Infantry Division (Task Forces Doan and Richardson of Combat Command Hickey (3rd Armored Division), and 329th Infantry of 83rd Infantry Division, attached): Completed move to new area and assumed responsibility for the 3rd Armored and 83rd Infantry Divisions' zones at 1200 hours. Task Forces Richardson and Doan, and the 329th Infantry were attached at that time.

3rd Armored Division (less Task Forces Richardson and Doan): Was relieved by the reinforced 84th Infantry Division of its zone at 1200 and moved to assembly areas closing there at 2330 where the troops occupied sheltered billets for the purpose of rehabilitation and maintenance. Location of units at the close of the period: Combat Command Hickey, less Task Forces Richardson and Doan, P-4390; Combat Command Boudinot, K-3001; Combat Command Howze, P-3195; 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, BARVAUX (P-4096).

83rd Infantry Division (less Division Artillery and 329th Infantry): Upon relief of the Division by elements of the 84th Infantry Division, the 329th Infantry was attached to the 84th Division, and the Division artillery was attached to Corps Artillery at 1200. Both the 329th Infantry and Artillery remained in position to support the 84th Division. Prior to noon patrols entered ROGERY (P-7284) without opposition. The 330th Infantry remained in previous locations and the 331st Infantry assembled as follows: 1st Battalion, AISNE (P-4597), 2nd Battalion, DEUX-RYS (P-4895), 3rd Battalion, FAYS (P-5097).

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2nd Armored Division (less 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion): Remained in billeting areas in the vicinity of SPRIMONT (K-5313) performing maintenance and rehabilitation.

84th Infantry Division

Moved to new assembly area and at 1200 relieved elements of the 3rd Armored Division and 83rd Infantry Division on the Corps front and left flank, next to the 4th Cavalry Group which held the right flank. Task Force Church (335th Infantry with Task Forces Richardson and Doan, plus certain other attachments) moved into positions on the right of the Division zone. Task Force Doan continued to hold the same defensive positions as the day before. Front line units were deployed as follows: 3rd Battalion, 335th Infantry, P-700769 - P-700784; 1st Battalion, 335th Infantry, P-697785 - P-701788 - P-704798; 3rd Battalions, 329th and 334th Infantry Regiments, P-702810 - P-703816; 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry, P-704818 - P-704826; and 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, P-704828 - P-704837.

Other units were assembled as follows: Task Force Richardson and 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, vicinity of STEFFIGNY (P-6777); 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, vicinity of P-678808; 1st Battalion, 334th Infantry, P-683-306; 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, P-687826; 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, P-691834; and 3rd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, P-676834.

Artillery

83rd Division: Fired 46 missions, all of which were interdiction and harassing, expending 701 rounds.

84th Division: Fired 38 missions as follows: 1 preparation, 7 personnel, 2 machine gun, 1 close support, 5 tank, 9 interdiction and harassing, and 13 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 756.

Corps: Fired 48 missions as follows: 2 preparation, 1 personnel, 4 counterbattery, 1 tank, 30 interdiction and harassing, 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 1338.

From positions occupied at this time the VII Corps Artillery was capable of firing into the zones of the VIII and III Corps on the right and the V and XVIII (Airborne) Corps on the left.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 42.

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22 JANUARY 1945

The 84th Infantry Division attacked through positions held by attached units of the 3rd Armored and 83rd Infantry Divisions and captured GOUVY (P-7177) and BEHO (P-7581), but heavy enemy fires prevented the seizure of the objective high ground to the east of the former place. All other units except an armored task force and the 4th Cavalry Group moved into billeting areas for rehabilitation and maintenance.

The enemy fought a delaying action along the entire Corps front during the day to enable rear elements to prepare successive line of resistance. Prisoners of war indicated that the most immediate defensive line ran from a point 500 yards east of OURTHE (P-7478) through BEHO (P-7581), thence north and northeast. Enemy centers of resistance, including the few tanks employed in the GOUVY area, were inadequate to prevent our occupation of the town early in the day, nor to stop our advance into BEHO at 2100.

No close support missions were flown in support of VII Corps, but fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command attacked targets of opportunity on armed reconnaissance missions. Planes of the XIX and XXIX Tactical Air Commands participated in the bombing with the following total claims: 707 motor vehicles destroyed and 786 damaged, 45 armored vehicles destroyed and 53 damaged, 331 railway cars destroyed and 277 damaged, and 12 locomotives destroyed. The weather was clear and very cold with visibility up to 6 miles.

4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): Relieved Task Force Doan of 3rd Armored Division (attached to 84th Division) and maintained defensive front line patrols. 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion reverted to 2nd Armored Division control.

83rd Infantry Division: All of the Division closed in billeting areas for rest, rehabilitation, and maintenance. Locations of units were as follows: 329th Infantry, 1st Battalion, VERLAINE (K-4102), 2nd Battalion, TOHOGNE (K-3900), 3rd Battalion, HAMOIR (K-4305); 330th Infantry, 1st Battalion, HEYD (P-4596), 2nd Battalion, IZIER (K-4600), 3rd Battalion, FILOT (K-4605); 331st Infantry, 1st Battalion, VILLERS STE GERTRUDE (P-4698), 2nd Battalion, CHERHALLE (K-5200), and FAGNE (P-5297), 3rd Battalion, FAYS (P-5097).

84th Infantry Division (Task Force Richardson, 3rd Armored Division, attached): Attacked, and seized GOUVY (P-7177) and BEHO (P-7581).

2nd Armored Division: All units were in billeting areas performing maintenance and rehabilitation. Units were located as follows: Combat Command Collier, vicinity of K-5519, Combat Command White, vicinity of K-5513, Combat Command Hinds, vicinity of K-5112, and 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, CONNEMONT (K-5614).

3rd Armored Division (less Task Force Richardson of Combat Command Hickey): All units were located in billeting areas performing maintenance and rehabilitation as follows: Combat Command Hickey, less Task Force Richardson, vicinity of P-4390; Combat Command Boudinot, vicinity of K-3001; Combat Command Howze, vicinity of P-3195; and 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, BARVAUX (P-4096).

84th Infantry Division

The 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, of Task Force Church attacked at 0815, passed through its 3rd Battalion, and advanced against small arms, maching gun, tank and nebelwerfer toward GOUVY (P-7177).

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22 JANUARY 1945

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The enemy fought a delaying action along the entire Corps front during the day to enable rear elements to prepare successive line of resistance. Prisoners of war indicated that the most immediate defensive line ran from a point 500 yards east of OURTHE (P-7478) through BEHO (P-7581), thence north and northeast. Enemy centers of resistance, including the few tanks employed in the GOUVY area, were inadequate to prevent our occupation of the town early in the day, nor to stop our advance into BEHO at 2100.

No close support missions were flown in support of VII Corps, but fighter-bombers of the IX Tactical Air Command attacked targets of opportunity on armed reconnaissance missions. Planes of the XIX and XXIX Tactical Air Commands participated in the bombing with the following total claims: 707 motor vehicles destroyed and 786 damaged, 45 armored vehicles destroyed and 53 damaged, 331 railway cars destroyed and 277 damaged, and 12 locomotives destroyed. The weather was clear and very cold with visibility up to 6 miles.

4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): Relieved Task Force Doan of 3rd Armored Division (attached to 84th Division) and maintained defensive front line patrols. 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion reverted to 2nd Armored Division control.

83rd Infantry Division: All of the Division closed in billeting areas for rest, rehabilitation, and maintenance. Locations of units were as follows: 329th Infantry, 1st Battalion, VERLAINE (K-4102), 2nd Battalion, TOHOGNE (K-3900), 3rd Battalion, HAMOIR (K-4305); 330th Infantry, 1st Battalion, MEYD (P-4596), 2nd Battalion, IXIER (K-4600), 3rd Battalion, FILOT (K-4605); 331st Infantry, 1st Battalion, VILLERS STE GERTRUDE (P-4698), 2nd Battalion, CHERHALLE (K-5200), and FAGNE (P-5297), 3rd Battalion, FAYS (P-5097).

84th Infantry Division (Task Force Richardson, 3rd Armored Division, attached): Attacked, and seized GOUVY (P-7177) and BEHO (P-7581).

2nd Armored Division: All units were in billeting areas performing maintenance and rehabilitation. Units were located as follows: Combat Command Collier, vicinity of K-5519, Combat Command White, vicinity of K-5513, Combat Command Hinds, vicinity of K-5112, and 82nd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, CORNEMONT (K-5614).

3rd Armored Division (less Task Force Richardson of Combat Command Hickey): All units were located in billeting areas performing maintenance and rehabilitation as follows: Combat Command Hickey, less Task Force Richardson, vicinity of P-4390; Combat Command Boudinot, vicinity of K-3001; Combat Command Howze, vicinity of P-3195; and 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, BARVAUX (P-4096).

84th Infantry Division

The 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, of Task Force Church attacked at 0815, passed through its 3rd Battalion, and advanced against small arms, machine gun, tank and nebelwerfer toward GOUVY (P-7177).

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22 January

The town was seized prior to 1200, and secured by Company G. The remainder of the Battalion continued the advance toward the objective high ground east of GOUVY, encountering stubborn resistance in addition to the deep snow and difficult terrain. Heavy fires from the east, including some 88mm, prevented the Battalion from reaching its objective, and the advance was stopped in the vicinity of P-738793. Task Force Richarson advanced in support of the attack of the 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, providing tank protection and supporting by fire the advance. At the close of the period Task Force Richardson was in the vicinity of GOUVY. The 3rd Battalion, 335th Infantry, after being passed through, moved to GOUVY and then to P-728872, prepared to attack through the 2nd Battalion in the morning. The 1st Battalion, which had been passed through by elements of the 334th Infantry, moved to GOUVY, closing there at 2200 hours. Task Force Dean was relieved on the line by elements of the 4th Cavalry Group at 1115 hours and reverted to 3rd Armored Division control, moving to a billeting area.

In the center of the Division zone, the 3rd and 2nd Battalions, 334th Infantry, attacked abreast at 0630, initially meeting no resistance, but as the advance toward BEHO (P-7681) continued, small arms and some 88mm and nebelwerfer fire was encountered. Both Battalions encountered enemy delaying action, and the advance was further delayed by the deep snow. The thick woods also slowed the 2nd Battalion, but by 2000 hours both Battalions had reached the objective where positions were consolidated. The 1st Battalion remained in Regimental reserve, closed in the vicinity of P-738817 at 1835, and upon completion of action moved to the vicinity of COURTIL (P-7081).

On the Division left flank, the 1st and 2nd Battalions, 333rd Infantry, attacked abreast at 0815 hours. The 1st Battalion on the right, advanced along the Division's north boundary through the deep snow, engaged in a heavy fire fight at 1930 and secured the high ground overlooking BEHO. Positions were consolidated in the vicinity of P-758824. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion met scattered resistance of a delaying nature in advancing through the snow and thick woods to reach P-745825. Company F held positions at P-750824 with the Battalion CP. The reserve 3rd Battalion closed in CIERREUX (P-7184) at 1600 hours.

Artillery

84th Infantry Division: Fired 65 missions as follows: 7 preparation, 16 personnel, 5 mortar and machine gun, 3 close support, 4 tank, 20 interdiction and harassing, and 10 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 2199.

Corps: Fired 13 missions as follows: 10 personnel, 2 close support, and 1 counterbattery. Rounds expended: 973.

On 22 January an officer prisoner of war stated that he saw the artillery of the 2nd SS Panzer Division going into the woods at P-7579. The message from G-2 was received at 2000 hours. A TOT involving 3 Corps (VII, VIII and XVIII) was arranged and fired at 2031. A total of 19 Battalions participated, including 8 from VII Corps, and 4 from 84th Division. A mixture of HE and WP shell fuzed with quick, delay, and pait was employed in the concentration. About 600 rounds were expended.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hours period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

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22 January

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 70

23 JANUARY 1945

The 84th Infantry Division, with an armored tank force attached, continued the attackand captured OURTHE (P-7478), repulsed an enemy counter-attack and seized the commanding ground south of BEHO at P-767805. All other units of the Corps remained in billeting areas resting and performing maintenance and rehabilitation.

As the Corps advanced to the east from BEHO, resistance increased from the rear guard elements of the 9th SS Panzer Division, reinforced by elements of the 560th Volksgrenadier and 2nd SS Panzer Divisions. The enemy's determination to retard or halt our progress eastward prompted him to move toward our lines at 0830 from ALDRINGEN (P-7781) an estimated 250 infantry supported by 3 tanks. The infantry received high casualties and withdrew before reaching our lines. Heavy concentrations of enemy artillery fell on BEHO starting at 1200 and continued throughout the day.

No close support missions were performed by fighter-bombers for the Corps attack, but planes of the IX Tactical Air Command attacked targets of opportunity. Claims were 652 motor vehicles destroyed and 749 damaged, 26 armored vehicles destroyed and 41 damaged, and 80 railway cars destroyed and 178 damaged.

4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): Group assembled in preparation to move to billeting area. Units were assembled as follows: 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, LAROCHE (P-4577), SAMREE (P-5081), BERISMENIL (P-5277); 759th Light Tank Battalion, vicinity of P-607785; 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, DINEZ (P-5976), MONT-LE-BAN (P-6478), BRISY (P-6574) and RETTIGNY (P-6775).

84th Infantry Division: Repulsed enemy counter-attack, seized the high ground south of BEHO at P-767805, and captured the town of OURTHE (P-7478).

3rd Armored Division: Task Force Richardson was released from attachment to 84th Division at 1200 and reverted to Division control, closing in the area of Combat Command Hickey in the vicinity of P-4090 at 1530. Other units remained in billeting areas performing maintenance and rehabilitation.

2nd Armored Division: Remained in billeting areas performing maintenance and rehabilitation.

83rd Infantry Division: Remained in billeting areas performing maintenance and rehabilitation. The 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, moved to BURNONTIGE (K-5100). All other units remained in previous locations.

84th Infantry Division

At 0700 hours, the 2nd Battalion, 335th Infantry, operating as a component part of Task Force Church, renewed the attack making rapid progress against enemy road blocks and small arms fire until slowed down by approximately 200 infantry and tanks in the vicinity of P-755795. The 1st Battalion moved out from GOUVY

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23 January

(P-7278), passed through the 2nd Battalion, and attacked enemy strong points, advancing to the vicinity of P-767805. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion held positions at P-757798 - P-760801. Company K attacked southeast (On the right flank of the Division) at 0745. Initial progress was rapid but when enemy resistance consisting of machine gun, tank and small arms fire was received from the vicinity of OURTHE (P-7478) and WATTERMAL (P-7477), Company I was committed to action. Following an artillery preparation, Companies I and K, 335th Infantry, supported by a tank company, attacked and seized OURTHE at 2000. Hard fighting preceded the capture of the town. Positions were then consolidated and contact maintained with the 17th Airborne Division on the right. Task Force Richardson (3rd Armored Division) was relieved from attachment to Task Force Church at 1200 and reverted to Division control.

The 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry, attacked to the southeast at 0630 hours and advanced against enemy small arms, mortar and artillery fire to secure the objective high ground in the vicinity of P-7781, east of BEHO. At approximately 0830 an enemy counter-attack of about 250 infantry and 3 tanks was repulsed in the vicinity of P-773814 before it reached our lines and the attackers dispersed by heavy and accurate artillery fire. Contact was maintained with the 291st Infantry as elements of that Regiment came abreast of the 2nd Battalion, 334th Infantry. The 3rd Battalion remained in position in the vicinity of BEHO during the day and the 1st Battalion in COURTIL (P-7081)

After contact was established between the 334th and 291st Infantry Regiments on the Division left flank, the 1st Battalion, 333rd Infantry, which had been maintaining contact with the 291st Infantry, withdrew and moved to billeting area in the vicinity of VERLEUMONT (P-6387). The 2nd Battalion, 333rd Infantry, moved to PROVEDREUX (P-6885), and the 3rd Battalion of this Regiment closed in JOUBIEVAL (P-6586) at 1150 hours.

Artillery

84th Infantry Division: Fired 22 missions as follows: 5 preparation, 3 personnel, 2 mortar and machine gun, 5 close support, 1 tank, 5 interdiction and harassing, and 1 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 463.

Corps: Fired 15 missions as follows: 2 preparation, 8 personnel, 1 counterbattery, 2 interdiction and harassing, and 2 miscellaneous. Rounds expended: 426.

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported.

Prisoners of war captured by the Corps: 65.

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The 84th Infantry Division completed its mission, mopping up the remaining enemy resistance within its zone in the wooded area in the vicinity of P-765002 and at 1800 hours passed to control of XVIII (Airborne) Corps. This left the VII Corps without any enemy contact or front lines for the first time since prior to crossing the ROER River in August. All other units of the Corps were in billeting areas for rest, rehabilitation, maintenance and training of personnel.

The 335th Infantry was the only Corps unit that had enemy contact. After it had wiped out enemy machine guns and passed through anti-personnel mines in the woods in the vicinity of P-771804 (south of ALBERTHOF), it moved rapidly to its objective. From then until the 84th Division passed to XVIII Corps control the only enemy action was light artillery fire.

Although visibility was limited and the weather continued very cold, fighter-bombers flew armed reconnaissance missions and attacked targets of opportunity with the IX Tactical Air Command claiming 199 motor vehicles destroyed and 286 damaged, 25 armored vehicles destroyed and 17 damaged, and 53 railway cars destroyed and 25 damaged.

84th Infantry Division: Attacked to clear the remainder of the Division zone [illegible] and at 1100 had completed mopping up the wooded area in the vicinity of P-765002. At 1800 the Division passed to control of the XVIII (Airborne) Corps.

4th Cavalry Group (reinforced): Group crossed the IP at 0900 and by 1800 units were assembled in billeting areas as follows: 4th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, K-2008, and 24th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron, K-1609.

2nd and 3rd Armored Divisions, and 83rd Infantry Division: All units remained in previous locations in billeting areas for rehabilitation and maintenance.

84th Infantry Division

Elements of the 335th Infantry with Task Force Church continued mopping up small groups of enemy on the right flank of the Division zone during the morning. The 1st Battalion cleared the woods in the vicinity of P-7680 by 1100 and the 2nd Battalion patrolled to OURTHE (P-7478) and mopped up in the vicinity of P-7679. Enemy machine guns, south of ALBERTHOF (P-7781), were wiped out in the vicinity of P-771804, and by 1100 all enemy resistance was eliminated. At 1635 the 2nd Battalion was relieved on the line by Company L, 335th Infantry and closed in the vicinity of GOUVY (P-7177). The 3rd Battalion, less Company L, improved positions in OURTHE, and the 1st Battalion held positions at P-765796 - P-771805 when the Division passed to XVIII Corps control at 1800 hours.

The location of other units at the time of detachment of the Division from VII Corps was as follows: 335th Infantry, enroute to K-5702; 333rd Infantry in billeting areas in vicinity of P-5306 where they closed at 1400 hours.

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24 January

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Artillery

Units of the Corps Artillery moved to rest areas in the vicinity of ANDENNE (K-1213), CINEY (P-1291), NOISEUX (P-3291) and HAVELANGE (P-2202).

Antiaircraft: No action for the 24 hour period ending at 0600 was reported by the 109th AAA Gp.

Tank Destroyers: No action reported. All units in rest area.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 0.

25 JANUARY

All units of the Corps remained assembled in billeting areas out of contact with the enemy, without any change in locations, performing maintenance and rehabilitation. The Corps CP closed at LIBRAMONT (P-6186) and opened at OCHAIN, Belgium (K-3106) at 1400 hours. This is the first time since prior to the invasion of Europe that the Command Post of VII Corps was chosen with regard to the comforts and accomodations of the personnel of the Corps and Corps Headquarters Company, well to the rear of any front lines.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 0.

26 JANUARY

All units of the Corps remained out of contact with the enemy, assembled in billeting areas without any change in locations, performing maintenance, rehabilitation and small unit training.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 0.

27 JANUARY

All units of the Corps remained out of contact with the enemy, assembled in billeting areas without any change in locations, performing maintenance, rehabilitation and small unit training.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 0.

28 JANUARY

All units of the Corps remained out of contact with the enemy, assembled in billeting areas without any change in locations, performing maintenance, rehabilitation and small units training.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 0.

29 JANUARY

All units of the Corps remained out of contact with the enemy, assembled in billeting areas without any change in locations, performing maintenance, rehabilitation and small unit training.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps: 0.

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30 JANUARY 1945

All units of the Corps remained out of contact with the enemy, assembled in billeting areas without change in locations, performing maintenance, rehabilitation and small units training.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps 0.

31 JANUARY 1945

All units of the Corps remained out of contact with the enemy, assembled in billeting areas without change in locations, performing maintenance, rehabilitation and small units training.

Prisoners of War captured by the Corps 0.

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HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS
A.P.O. 307, U.S. Army

1 February 1945

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

ASSIGNMENT	NAME	RANK	ASN	BRANCH	COMPONENT
COMMANDING GENERAL	J LAWTON COLLINS	Maj Gen	06247	USA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	JOHN J WALSH	Maj	0391208	FA	RES
Aide-de-Camp	FRANCIS X DRISCOLL	Capt	0420089	Inf	RES
CORPS ARTY COMMANDER	(1)WILLISTON B PALMER	Brig Gen	012246	USA	RA
Asst Corps Arty Comdr	(1)ANDREW P O'MEARA	Col	010062	FA	RA
Aide-de-Camp	(1)WILLIAM W GARSON Jr	1st Lt	0440408	FA	RES
CHIEF OF STAFF	RICHARD C PARTRIDGE	Col	012830	GSC	RA
Deputy Chief of Staff	HOWARD S SEARLE	Col	0128165	GSC	NG
Liaison Off	GIBSON S PETERSON	Maj	0363994	Cav	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES G WILLIAMSON	Maj	0406586	CAC	AUS
Liaison Off	WALTER W DILLARD	Capt	0327053	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JOHN R HOLLINGSHEAD	Capt	0327349	CE	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES C JOHNSON	Capt	0364772	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	JAMES W GORMAN	Capt	0285768	FA	RES
Liaison Off	CHARLES W BAER	Capt	0337373	Inf	RES
Liaison Off	WILLIAM W MAXEY (DS)	1st Lt	01175792	FA	AUS
Liaison Off	(2)GEORGES RAGACHE	Aspirant			
Chief Clerk	WILLIAM B MADDOCK	WOJG	W2131284	USA	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-1	JOHN D BIGGINS	Col	0162349	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	EDWARD M FRIEND Jr	Lt Col	0310219	GSC	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	(3)MURRAY A CLYBURN	Maj	0347661	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-1	GEORGE M RISER	Capt	0228767	FA	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-2	LESLIE D CARTER	Col	010063	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2	DAVID A TAYLOR	Col	012156	Cav	RA
Asst A C of S G-2	DAVID B GOODWIN	Lt Col	027914	GSC	RA
Asst A C of S G-2 (Air O)	WILLIAM C JESSE	Lt Col	0302992	Cav	NG
Asst A C of S G-2	KENNETH L HOUSTON	Maj	0326819	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	CARL J WILSON	Capt	0283386	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-2	IGNACE L EPHRUSSI	1st Lt	0574626	AC	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	CHARLES J BRUCKEN	1st Lt	01602539	AGD	AUS
Asst A C of S G-2	PRESTON M MAREWARD	WOJG	W2131280	USA	AUS
	OB UNIT NO 6				
	(4)ALEXANDER BLAZEVICIUS	1st Lt	01296983	Inf	AUS
	PI TEAM NO 10				
	(4)LOUIS BATT	Capt	01045664	CAC	AUS
	(4)MORRIS GLASS	1st Lt	01934434	AUS	AUS
	PI TEAM NO 29				
	(4)PATSY M MINAGLIA	1st Lt	01591321	QMC	AUS
	(4)LEE J WOOD	1st Lt	01303585	Inf	AUS

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PT TEAM NO 129					
(4)EYVIND JACOBSEN		2d Lt	01302975	Inf	AUS
IPW TEAM NO 16					
(4)MAX SCHLOSSBERG		1st Lt	01162701	FA	AUS
IPW TEAM NO 36					
(4)ADAM J EISENHAUER		Capt	0895869	CAC	RES
(4)ARTHUR HAHN		2d Lt	01999427	AUS	AUS
IPW TEAM NO 44					
(4)JOHN P BERNHARDT		1st Lt	01180419	FA	AUS
IPW TEAM NO 159					
(4)PETER K HETMANN		2d Lt	01069486	CAC	AUS
(4)LEON WEINDLING		2d Lt	0927245	AUS	AUS
IPW TEAM NO 160					
(4)ANTHONY C LEHNER		1st Lt	01642812	AC	AUS
(4)ROBERT M SINGER		2d Lt	0886364	AUS	AUS
MII TEAM NO 402C					
(4)HELMUT STRAUSS		2d Lt	0555188	AUS	AUS
MII TEAM NO 419					
(4)PIERRE P LAERSCHE		1st Lt	01303258	Inf	AUS
(4)MAX OPPENHEIMER Jr		2d Lt	01995024	AUS	AUS
21ST WEATHER SQ DET "EE"					
	LUCIUS A PERRY Jr	Maj	C362516	AC	AUS
	ELBERT C HERRICK	2d Lt	0865488	AC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-3	ORLANDO C TROXEL Jr	Col	018487	GSC	NA
Asst A C of S G-3 (Air O)	THURSTON T PAUL Jr	Lt Col	0342846	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	(6)ROBERT W DUKE	Lt Col	0365127	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	(4)HENRY N HENRY	Lt Col	0246714	FA	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	(6)BERGIN V DICKEY	Lt Col	0360244	Inf	NG
Asst A C of S G-3	ROBERT J ROSA	Maj	0352011	Cav	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	JOHN W STARK	Maj	0360506	CAC	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	WED R DICKSON	Maj	0389040	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	JOSEPH V PACE Jr	Capt	0390720	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	FRANCIS B MOBLEY Jr	Capt	0390599	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-3	NICHOLAS McINTIRE	2d Lt	01049982	CAC	AUS
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-4	JAMES G ANDING	Col	015677	GSC	NA
Asst A C of S G-4	THOMAS N FIGURES	Lt Col	0398172	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-4	LEA C ROBERTS	Maj	0349693	Inf	RES
Asst A C of S G-4	IRA J HOLTON	Maj	0453734	Inf	AUS
Asst A C of S G-4	ALFRED F MOFFITT Jr	Capt	0386233	Inf	RES
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF G-5	DELL B HARDIN	Col	0171321	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	FRANK H McFARLAND	Lt Col	0190171	GSC	NG
Asst A C of S G-5	ALBERT W ABBOTT	Maj	0373312	Cav	RES

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[illegible]

Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps
1 Feb 1946 continued.

ADJUTANT GENERAL	LAWTON [illegible]	Col	[illegible]	AGD	RA
Asst AG	[illegible]	Lt Col	[illegible]	AGD	RES
Asst AG	[illegible]	Maj	[illegible]	AGD	RA
Asst AG	[illegible]	Capt	[illegible]	AGD	AUS
Postal Off	(5)JAMES A [illegible]	1st Lt	[illegible]	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	[illegible]	CWO	[illegible]	USA	AUS
Asst AG	(6)[illegible]	WOJG	[illegible]	USA	AUS
	5TH MRU (M)				
Asst AG	HAROLD E DURNEY	Capt	[illegible]	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	FRANCIS L GUILFOYLE	1st Lt	[illegible]	AGD	AUS
Asst AG	WILLIAM H MUSSER Jr	1st Lt	[illegible]	AGD	AUS
INSPECTOR GENERAL	JOHN W NICHOLSON	Col	[illegible]	IGD	RA
Asst IG	MILES W CULEMAN	Lt Col	[illegible]	IGD	NG
Asst IG	VICTOR A DARLING	Capt	[illegible]	IGD	AUS
Asst IG	LEONARD HOFFMAN	CWO	W2114256	USA	AUS
JUDGE ADVOCATE	RICHARD F WELCH	Col	0225556	JAGD	RES
Asst JA	EDWARD L VanRODEN	Lt Col	0139956	JAGD	RES
QUARTERMASTER	PAUL E WARFIELD	Col	0246401	QMC	NG
Asst QM	JOHN G TAPP	Lt Col	0329067	QMC	RES
Asst QM	JOHN C HARRISON	Maj	0342679	QMC	RES
Asst QM	(4)JUAN A PALERM	Maj	0325000	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HERMAN B BOYLE Jr	Maj	0393313	QMC	RES
Asst QM	HARRY P HUTFLAS	1st Lt	01110576	QMC	AUS
Asst QM	(4)NED L ARCENEAUX	WOJG	W2109890	USA	AUS
SURGEON	ROBERT H BARR	Col	0240710	MC	RES
Asst Surg	JAMES R FANCHER	Lt Col	0360582	MC	NG
Asst Surg	JOSEPH E BANKS	Maj	0496405	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	NORMAN C ROBISON	Maj	0472662	MAC	AUS
Asst Surg	(4)JAMES T ASCH	Capt	0447621	MC	RES
Asst Surg	ROBERT H CULVER	2d Lt	0530743	Sn C	AUS
Chief Clerk	LAWRENCE A BECCO	CWO	W2114253	USA	AUS
FINANCE OFFICER	ELMER A STROM	Col	0232150	FD	NG
Asst Fin Off	ANDREW S DONNELLY	Capt	02040990	FD	AUS
Asst Fin Off	(6)LESLIE R YOCUM	CWO	W2109871	USA	AUS
CHEMICAL OFFICER	JACK A BARNES	Lt Col	0263115	CWS	RES
Asst Cml Off	IRWIN W SHUTT	Maj	0346833	CWS	RES
ENGINEER	MASON J YOUNG	Col	03788	CE	RA
Asst Engr	HENRY M BLACK	Lt Col	0259095	CE	RES
Asst Engr	GLENN H PLUMLEE	Maj	0352959	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ALBION W KNIGHT	Capt	0368716	CE	RES
Asst Engr	ROBERT M GILLESPIE	Capt	0364884	CE	RES

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ORDNANCE OFFICER	ARTHUR H LUSK	Col	07537	Ord Dept	PA
Asst Ord Off	MARTIN F SHAUGHNESSY	Lt Col	0323425	Ord Dept	NG
Asst Ord Off	SAMUEL M COHEN	Maj	0422951	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	RICHARD A GRENNELL	Maj	0392097	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN SUNNTSK	Capt	0387454	Inf	RES
Asst Ord Off	JOHN C BELLOWS	Capt	0416205	Ord Dept	RES
Asst Ord Off	WILLIAM D HALL Jr	WOJG	W2120989	USA	AUS
SIGNAL OFFICER	JOHN A SAWYER	Col	017177	Sig C	RA
Asst Sig Off	CHARLES T WESNER	Maj	0276309	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	HUGH SMITH (DS)	Capt	0381948	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	EMMET B PORTER	Capt	0377498	Sig C	RES
Asst Sig Off	JOHN BRAWLEY	Capt	01634554	Sig C	AUS
Asst Sig Off	VICTOR G FLORENCE	CWO	W2109861	USA	AUS
CHAPLAIN	F HERBERT MOEHLMANN	Col	017986	Ch	RA
Asst Ch	PATRICK J GLEESON	Lt Col	0326091	Ch	RES
	SIDNEY M LEFKOWITZ(DS)	Capt	0471729	Ch	AUS
SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER	ROBERT R WILSON	Maj	0289950	Inf	NG
Asst Sp Sv Off	(4)WILLIAM C SMITH Jr	1st Lt	0376518	PA	RES
PROVOST MARSHAL	(6)JOHN D BRADLEY Jr	Lt Col	0341714	Cav	RES
Asst PM	WILLIS H ROSS	Maj	0270426	CE	RES
Asst PM	EVERT HEATH	1st Lt	01304211	Inf	AUS
AIR SUPPORT PARTY OFF	(4)JACK B AMPHLETT	Capt	0735015	AC	RES
FR HQ IX FI COMD	(4)THOMAS A BEST	Capt	0806036	AC	AUS
	(4)QUENTIN C AANENSON	1st Lt	0763452	AC	AUS
CIC DET NO 207					
COMMANDING OFFICER	JAMES K DORSETT Jr	Maj	0362283	Inf	RES
Executive	JOHN H HEMINWAY	Capt	01302662	Inf	AUS
	EDWARD C STOLLENWERCK	1st Lt	01304812	Inf	AUS
	JOHN H REBER	2d Lt	0387407	AUS	AUS
	DANIEL B BADGER	2d Lt	0387384	AUS	AUS
	FENTON MORAN	2d Lt	01996388	AUS	AUS
	ALBERT L PERRY	2d Lt	01999320	AUS	AUS
	GUSTAVE W ZIELASKO	2d Lt	01999321	AUS	AUS
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY VII CORPS					
HEADQUARTERS COMMANDANT	LAWRENCE L LARSEN	Capt	0352065	Inf	RES
Executive Off	FREDERICK FERGUSON	Capt	0388735	Inf	RES
Mess Off	GLENN TERRELL Jr	1st Lt	0442649	Inf	RES
Supply Off	SHERWOOD V GREGORY	1st Lt	01290694	Inf	AUS
Property & Maint Off	LAURENCE B KANE	1st Lt	01795799	CMP	AUS
Asst Supply Off	JOHN J McGEE	1st Lt	0532462	Inf	RES
Personnel Off	JAMES L HAYES	CWO	W2116181	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES L WHITEHURST	CWO	W2109873	USA	AUS
Asst Supply Off	FREDERICK D HEIM	WOJG	W2116162	USA	AUS
Motor Off	MAX A LOOMIS	WOJG	W2109892	USA	AUS
Asst Mess Off	JAMES F BROWER	WOJG	W2116187	USA	AUS

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Directory of Offs, Hq VII Corps,
1 Feb 1945, continued.

MEDICAL DETACHMENT VII CORPS					
Medical Off	THEODORE S WRIGHT	Capt	0500245	MC	AUS
Dental Off	RUDOLPH J FALKIN	Capt	01689861	DC	AUS
Medical Off	(7)LUTHER R LEWIS	Capt	01696250	MC	AUS
Medical Off	(7)WILLIAM A BENDER	Capt	01695377	MC	AUS
1ST PLAT 506TH QM CAR CO					
COMMANDING OFFICER	OLIVER R DAVIS	1st Lt	01581650	QMC	AUS
DUTY UNANNOUNCED	(4)WALTER C BUETHE	Maj	0242112	Inf	RES
	ROBERT S DUMPER (DS)	Capt	0350651	FA	RES
	VERNON W WHITE (DS)	Capt	0390831	Sig C	RES
	(4)WILLIAM G PHELPS	Capt	0436838	Cav	RES
	(2)PIERRE FREYSS (Fr)	Capt			
	(4)GEORGE E MOISE	2d Lt	01016758	Cav	AUS
	(4)ANTHONY W LAPINSKAS	2d Lt	01017968	Inf	AUS
	(4)FRED L HADSEL	2d Lt	01799048	CMP	AUS
	LOUIE W MITCHELL (DS)	2d Lt	01822602	Inf	AUS
	RAYMOND F COBLEY	2d Lt	0548164	Inf	RES
AMERICAN RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR		CHARLES C BROADDUS Jr			

Note: (1) indicates asgd Hq & Hq Btry VII Corps Arty
(2) indicates atchd fr French Army
(3) indicates atchd unasgd to Hq VII Corps
(4) indicates atchd to Hq VII Corps
(5) indicates CO 307th APU
(6) indicates asgd to Hq Co VII Corps
(7) indicates atchd to Med Det VII Corps

Lawton Butler

LAWTON BUTLER,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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Appendix No 3 To Action Against Enemy, Report After/
After Action Report (No. 8) of VII
Corps, U.S. Army, for 1-31 Jan 45.

DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES, VII CORPS, U.S. ARMY,
BY TYPE, FOR THE PERIOD, 1 - 31 JANUARY, 1945.

DATE	KIA	WIA	MIA	CAPT	TOTALS
1	5	30	2	0	37
2	6	23	0	0	29
3	37	184	7	0	228
4	45	457	23	0	525
5	66	304	1	0	371
6	65	187	50	0	302
7	62	241	3	0	306
8	29	217	5	0	251
9	102	280	15	0	397
10	59	386	15	0	460
11	35	198	15	0	248
12	64	223	52	0	339
13	56	327	36	0	419
14	28	186	13	0	227
15	76	415	42	0	533
16	64	191	48	0	303
17	49	200	6	0	255
18	16	90	6	0	112
19	18	78	1	0	97
20	18	41	0	0	59
21	6	18	1	0	25
22	4	29	4	0	37
23	11	64	0	0	75
24	0	2	0	0	2
25	0	2	0	0	2
26	0	2	0	0	2
27	1	0	0	0	1
28	0	1	0	0	1
29	0	1	0	0	1
30	0	1	0	0	1
31	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	822	4478	345	0	5645

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DAILY BATTLE CASUALTIES, VIII CORPS, U.S. ARMY,
BY UNIT, FOR THE PERIOD, 1 - 31 JANUARY, 1945.

Date	---- Divisions ----					Corps Troops	Totals
	2 Armd	3 Armd	75 Inf	83 Inf	84 Inf		
1	17	3	0	0	8	9	37
2	0	0	7	16	4	2	29
3	55	57	68	14	15	19	228
4	173	60	54	38	192	8	525
5	83	57	13	87	103	28	371
6	42	98	19	59	74	10	302
7	62	95		66	74	9	306
8	42	98		10	136	5	291
9	89	108		139	52	9	397
10	27	37		266	54	76	460
11	47	26		111	57	7	248
12	68	48		142	22	59	339
13	51	49		163	126	30	419
14	11	29		96	66	25	227
15	89	54		291	83	16	533
16	2	105		152	28	16	303
17	2	110		95	27	21	255
18	2	33		59	10	8	112
19	1	47		46	0	3	97
20	0	33		8	8	10	59
21	0	20		1	1	3	25
22	0	10		17	9	1	37
23	0	9		0	63	3	75
24	0	0		0	0	2	2
25	0	2		0	0	0	2
26	0	1		0	0	1	2
27	1	0		0	0	0	1
28	0	0		0	0	1	1
29	0	0		0	0	1	1
30	0	0		0	0	1	1
31	0	0		0	0	0	0
Totals	864	1199	161	1876	1212	393	5645

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PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED BY VII CORPS, U.S. ARMY, FOR THE PERIOD, 1 - 31 JANUARY 45 INCL.

Date	No.
1	1
2	8
3	276
4	302
5	303
6	531
7	571
8	352
9	351
10	156
11	62
12	616
13	536
14	309
15	738
16	45
17	127
18	63
19	141
20	41
21	42
22	70
23	65
24	0
25	0
26	0
27	0
28	0
29	0
30	0
31	0
Totals	5706

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DOCUMENT TO ROLL INDEX

Frame Number	Classification Number	Date Period	Vol.	Pt.	Title	Security Classification	Remarks
4	585.6	Feb/45			6th Corps After Action Rpts.	U	
67	"	Apr/45			"	U	
150	585.6	May/45			6th Corps After Action Rpts.	U	
288	585.6-1	Mar/44			Rpt. On Conference	U	
295	585.7	June/44-Jan/45			7th After Action Rpt.	U	
327	"	Jul-Aug/44			"	U	
501	"	Sept/44			"	U	
603	"	Oct/44			"	U	
707	"	Nov/44			"	U	
803	"	Nov-Dec/44			"	U	
956	585.7	Jan/45			7th After Action Rpt.	U	
1065	Index				Index		

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